VOL.
9
Fuuka
Kouji Seo

KOUJI SEO

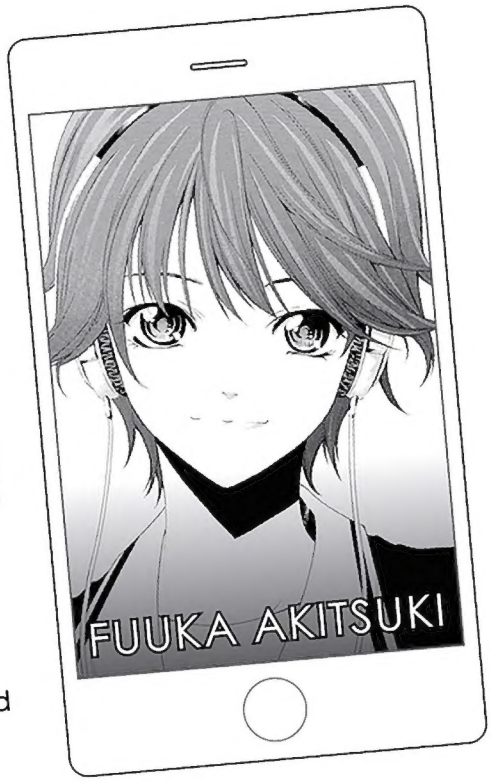
WITH CONCEPTUAL ASSISTANCE BY:
YOSHINORI SUGIMOTO

CHARACTERS & STORY

Fuuka

YUU HARUNA

He used to be naturally shy, but when he meets Fuuka Akitsuki during his high-school days, she strong-arms him into starting a band with her. He sings vocals and plays bass for The fallen moon.

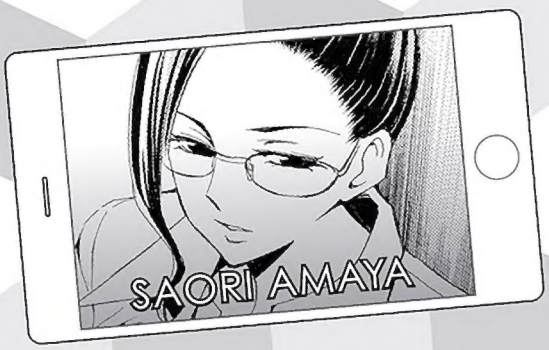


FUUKA AKITSUKI

After a remark by Yuu, she decided to form The fallen moon, and she fronted the band. She lived life her own way, causing chaos to others, but she had a rare quality that drew others to her. She became Yuu's girlfriend, but passed away after a traffic accident.

FUUKA AOI

A young woman with the same unusual first name as Fuuka Akitsuki. She used to be lead vocalist in a band, but she's presently pursuing a solo career. She's part close friend and part rival for Yuu.



SAORI AMAYA

She runs Twinkling Star, the agency that represents The fallen moon and Fuuka Aoi. A business woman with a bad reputation.

MAKOTO MIKASA

The keyboardist for The fallen moon. When he decides to refuse his father's demand to inherit the family business in order to pursue a life in music, he is disowned.

KOYUKI HINASHI

Once a best-selling female vocalist until she suddenly retired. But now she has reinvented herself as the vocalist for a band that wears bunny-head costumes, Rabbitz.

SARA IWAMI

The fallen moon's lead guitarist. She learned guitar from her brother, the lead guitarist for the Hedgehogs, and she is a confident and talented musician.

THE STORY THUS FAR

The fallen moon managed to play the Budoukan as Rabbitz's opening act. Standing on that stage was Fuuka's dream, and when Yuu and his bandmates finally stood in front of the audience, Fuuka's spirit was there to sing with them.... This was the first and last time the five members of The fallen moon would play a live show at the Budoukan!

KAZUYA NACHI

An upperclassman in Fuuka's and Yuu's school who was a member of the track and field team. He used to push Fuuka to join the team, but now he's been roped into being the drummer in their band.

FUUKA
VOL. 9

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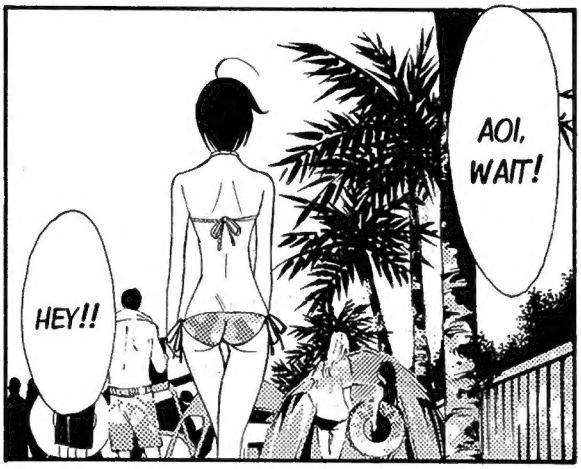
WOO
GIGGLE
GIGGLE
HEY, CUT IT OUT, RIN!
AHA HA HA!!
soul beat
...
HUH?
YOU'VE BEEN STARING AT GIRLS IN THEIR SWIMSUITS THIS WHOLE TIME.

76 SOMETHING IS ABOUT TO START!

I-I WASN'T --!
I'M TIRED FROM OUR CONCERT, THAT'S ALL!!
BESIDES, YOU DRAGGED ME HERE AFTER WORK.
OH, KNOCK IT OFF.
WHAT ELSE COULD I DO? YOU'RE THE ONLY FRIEND I HAVE.
QUIT COMPLAINING AND LET'S SWIM.
NOW THAT WE'RE HERE, IT'D BE A WASTE OF A TRIP IF WE DON'T!
YEAH, I KNOW, BUT...
I DON'T WANT TO BE CLOSE TO YOU.
WHY NOT?!
WHAT, SHE'S GOT A GUY?
AND I WAS GONNA GO TALK TO HER.
WHAT'S A CUTE GIRL LIKE HER DOING WITH A GUY LIKE HIM, ANYWAY?
...
...YOU SEE?
THIS IS WHAT HAPPENS.

ANYWAY, I'LL BE RIGHT HERE.
DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME. GO AND HAVE FUN.
...


AOI, WAIT!
HEY!!

...

ALL RIGHT, FINE!!
I'LL GO WITH YOU!!

IS THAT SO?
OKAY, THEN IT'S ALL YOUR FAULT IF SOME NASTY GUY HITS ON ME AND I GET INTO TROUBLE!
WHAT?!
WHY IS IT MY FAULT?!

HEH HEH.
I KNEW YOU'D SAY THAT, YUU-KUN!
YOU...
YOU TRICKED ME?
FORGET ABOUT THAT! C'MON, HURRY UP!!
LET'S GO ON THAT TALL ONE!!
HUH?!
NO WAY! I'M NOT RIDING THAT!!
HEY!!

SPLOOOOOSH!!!
PATHETIC. I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU'RE TIRED OUT ALREADY.
AND YOU CALL YOURSELF A GUY?
A-ANYONE WOULD GET TIRED AFTER DOING SOMETHING LIKE THAT TEN TIMES.
JEEZ.
OKAY, LET'S TAKE A BREAK, THEN.
...

I GUESS IT WOULD BE PRETTY DRAINING TO WORK PART-TIME WHILE YOU PLAY A COUPLE GIGS EVERY WEEK, HUH?
HOW DO YOU HAVE SO MUCH ENERGY, AOI?

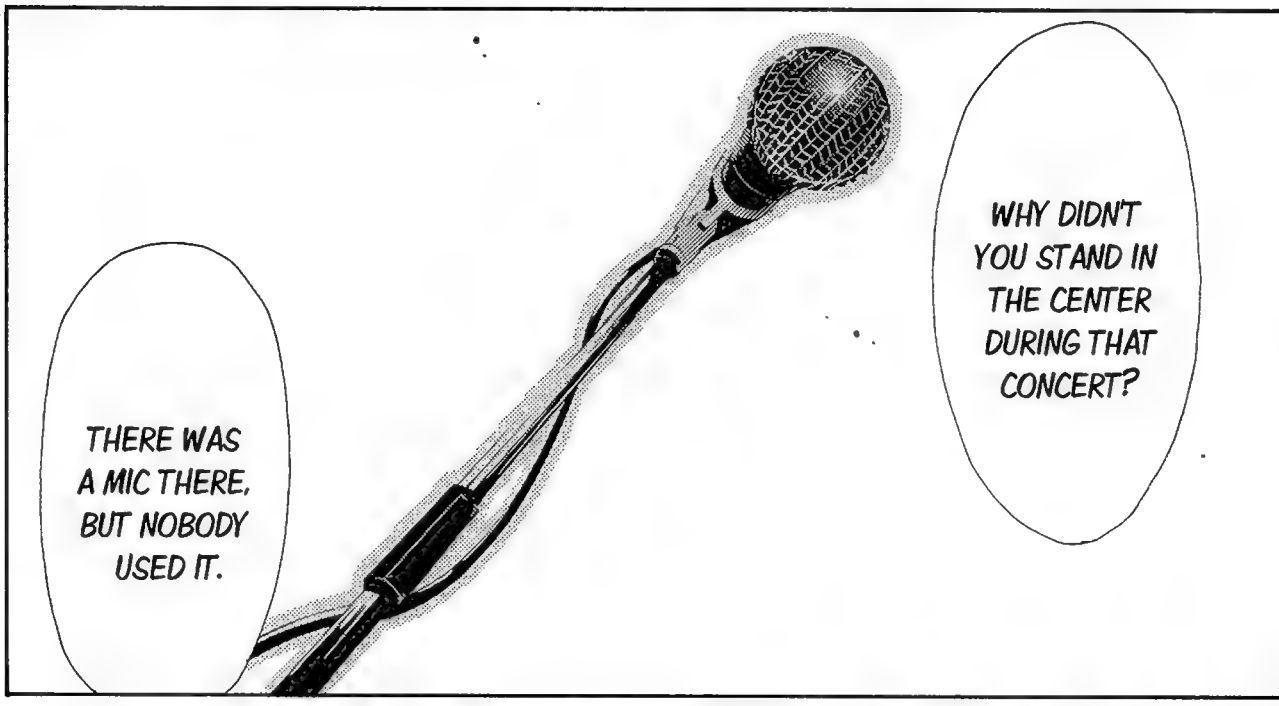
YOU REALLY ARE AMAZING, AOI.
HEY, SPEAKING OF GIGS, I HEARD YOU PULLED 400 PEOPLE TO YOUR SOLO GIG NOT LONG AGO.

BESIDES, I FEEL LIKE I DID MORE THAN I'M TYPICALLY CAPABLE OF THERE.
WELL, THEY WERE ALL THERE TO SEE RAB-BITZ.

...

YOU GUYS JUST PUT ON AN INCREDIBLE SHOW TO A SOLD-OUT BUDOUKAN AUDIENCE.
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

WHAT'S THAT?
HEY...
CAN I ASK YOU ONE THING?


THERE WAS A MIC THERE, BUT NOBODY USED IT.
WHY DIDN'T YOU STAND IN THE CENTER DURING THAT CONCERT?

WHAT --?
SHE WAS THERE.
OUR FIFTH MEMBER.

HUH?

REEEEEM
REEEEEM
REEEEEM
THE GIRL WHO WAS THE FALLEN MOON'S VOCALIST...
...AND MY GIRLFRIEND.
WE HAD PROMISED TO PLAY AT THE BUDOUKAN TOGETHER...
...SO I WAS SURE SHE'D BE WAITING THERE. THAT'S WHY...

...!
UH...

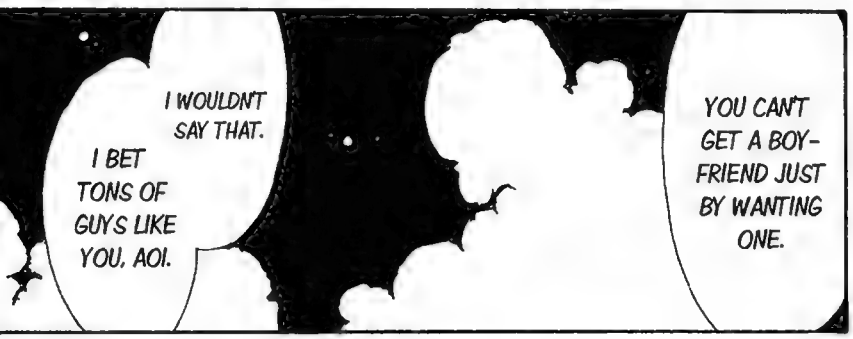
...SORRY.
IT'S OKAY.
I'M OVER IT NOW.
BUT...
THAT CONCERT GAVE ME CLOSURE.
IT WAS THE LAST SHOW THAT THE FIVE OF US WOULD PLAY TOGETHER.

THAT'S WHY I'M SURE...
I'LL NEVER LOVE ANYONE ELSE AGAIN.
...
BUT... IS IT THAT EASY TO JUST GET OVER IT?
TO GET OVER LOVING HER, EVEN.
OH-- WELL...
I CAN NEVER GET OVER THAT.

...
...I SEE.

DON'T YOU WANT TO GET A BOY-FRIEND?
INSTEAD OF HANGING AROUND WITH ME, I MEAN.

WHAT ABOUT YOU, AOI?
HUH? WHAT ABOUT ME?


YOU CAN'T GET A BOY-FRIEND JUST BY WANTING ONE.
I WOULDN'T SAY THAT. I BET TONS OF GUYS LIKE YOU, AOI.

THAT DOESN'T MATTER! I'M THE SAME AS YOU.
HUH?

I'M SURE
I WON'T...

...EVER BE IN A RELATION-SHIP.

THANKS FOR COMING HERE WITH ME TODAY...
IT HELPED TAKE MY MIND OFF THINGS.

NO PROB-LEM.
I HAD FUN, TOO.
I'M NOT REALLY SURE, BUT...

I GUESS AOI...
...HAS A LOT GOING ON, TOO.

HUH..?
OKAY, THEN!
IT'S BACK TO WORK FOR US TOMORROW!!
DID YOU FORGET?
IF WE DON'T COMPLETE THE TASKS THE PRESIDENT GAVE US...
..WE'LL BE FIRED FROM THE COMPANY.
OH, YEAH.
I WAS SO WRAPPED UP WITH THE BU-DOUKAN SHOW. I TOTALLY FORGOT.
HEY, DO YOU REALLY THINK YOU'LL BE ABLE TO DRAW A CROWD OF 1,300 WITH THAT ATTITUDE?
Y- YOU'RE RIGHT.
I'LL TRY MY BEST..

WE WANT TO PUT ON A FESTIVAL.
SPONSORED BY THE HEDGEHOGS.

YOU CAN'T JUST SAY SOMETHING LIKE THAT OUT OF NOWHERE!
WAIT JUST A MINUTE.
B-BUT...
IS THERE ANY GOOD REASON TO REJECT THAT OFFER SO YOU CAN PUT ON YOUR OWN FESTIVAL?!
IT'S A HUGE ACHIEVEMENT FOR A JAPANESE BAND TO PLAY ON THE MAIN STAGE AT GLASTONBURY!
YOU REJECTED A SPOT AT NEXT YEAR'S GLASTONBURY FESTIVAL. AND NOW YOU WANT TO PUT ON A FESTIVAL IN JAPAN?
SHE'S RIGHT. ONCE TAMA-CHAN SAYS SHE'LL DO SOMETHING, IT'S NO USE GOING AGAINST HER.
YOU MIGHT AS WELL GIVE UP.
B-BUT...
WE'VE ALREADY DECIDED.

F-FIRE-WORKS?
...
WE'RE TALKING ABOUT A FESTI-VAL!
WE'LL SET OFF HUGE FIREWORKS AND EVERY-THING!!
YEP.
AND THEY'LL BE THE BIGGEST FIRE-WORKS...
...THIS WORLD HAS EVER SEEN.

Fuuka
BUT ANYWAY, I WONDER WHAT'S UP?
WHAT DOES THE CLUB OWNER WANT TO SEE US FOR?
YEAH-- I DON'T HAVE THE SLIGHTEST IDEA.
HEY! THERE YOU GUYS ARE!
AND HE EVEN TOLD ME TO BRING MY BASS.
OUR GUESTS ARE WAITING FOR YOU.
COME WITH ME!
GUESTS?
I WONDER WHO IT IS.

Fuuka

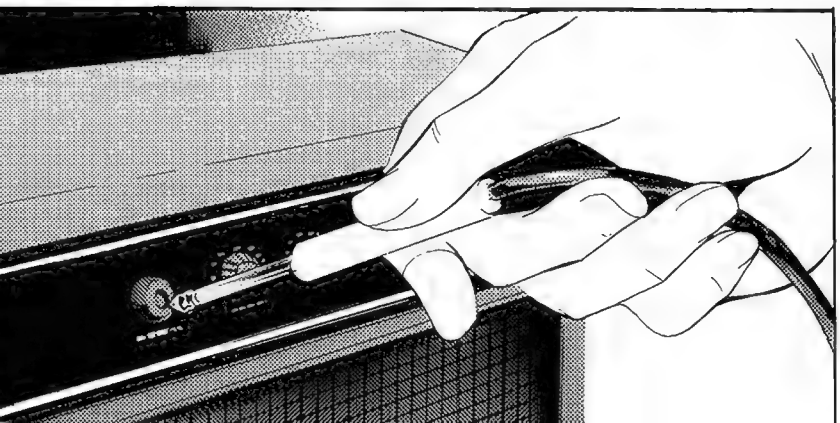
77 LESSONS FROM THE MASTERS!

OH--IT'S YASSAN.
AND_
NIKO AND TAMA, TOO.

SKRUT
LET ME SEE..
..THE BASS.

TUG
DON'T WORRY. I WON'T TRY TO TAKE IT.
AH.

HUH?
B- BUT THIS IS---



BUT IF YOU PLAY IT WELL...
...THERE'S NO COMPARISON.
UM...
IT'S A GOOD INSTRUMENT, SO EVEN IF YOU SUCK, IT'LL STILL SOUND GOOD.
DUUN
DUUN
DUUN
DUUN
DUUN
DUUN
DUUN
DUUN
THAT'S OUR SONG--!!
!!

BOM
BOM
WHA--?
IT CAN SOUND LIKE THAT?!
BOM
BOM
WOW. THAT SOUNDS WAY COOLER THAN WHEN YOU PLAY IT...
...
AH. OKAY!
UM...
SO BE MORE AWARE OF THAT WITH YOUR PICKING.
WITH THIS BASS, IT'S HARDER TO PLAY NOTES YOU CAN'T HEAR AS WELL... THE ONES YOU FEEL MORE WITH YOUR BODY.

I'M NOT SAYING THAT.
HUH?
HE'S TELLING YOU TO GROW MORE...
...BECAUSE HE EXPECTS A LOT OF YOU.
CANDY
I'M SAYING THAT HE STILL ISN'T...
...TAKING THIS BASS SERIOUSLY ENOUGH.
...
CUT IT OUT!
YOU'VE ALWAYS BEEN LOUSY AT THIS SORT OF THING.
YOU COULD BE A LITTLE NICER ABOUT HOW YOU TEACH HIM, YOU KNOW.

UM. SO WHAT WAS YOUR-
WHY'D YOU CALL US HERE TODAY?
HUH?
SO THE MASTERS CAN LECTURE THE TWO OF YOU-
-WHO SOUNDED LIKE CRAP AT YOUR CONCERT THE OTHER DAY.
NOW, HOLD ON- LET'S SIT DOWN AND HAVE A LITTLE CHAT, NACCHY.
GRAB
NO WAY! I THOUGHT YOU WERE GONNA PRAISE US!!
THUMP
WHO WOULD PRAISE THAT?! MAYBE IN A ZILLION YEARS!!
STILL, THE BASS ASIDE-
-WE COULD SENSE SOME REAL PASSION IN YOU.
HUH?

UH.
THANK YOU...

HEY, WHY SO NERVOUS, HARUNA?
W-WELL-- I'VE ALWAYS BEEN A FAN OF THE HEDGEHOGS.

I JUST WANTED TO HAVE A TALK...
...WITH THE VOCALIST OF A BAND LIKE THAT.

...
HA HA HA HA !!
AH--- SORRY!!
I'M IN THE HEDGE-HOGS TOO, YOU KNOW.
HUH?
I AM SURPRISED, THOUGH. I ALWAYS THOUGHT YOU'D BE A SCARIER PERSON, TAMA-SAN.
YOU'VE REALLY MOVED UP IN THE WORLD.
...JUST PLAYED THE BUDOUKAN, EVEN AS AN OPENING ACT.
STILL, IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE THE KIDS WHO WERE WORKING AT MY BEACH HOUSE LAST SUMMER...
WELL, SOME OF THAT IS INTENTIONAL ON MY PART.
THIS IS HOW I NORMALLY AM.
...
HMPH.

MOGAMI? YOU MEAN THAT PRODUCER?
...
IF THEY HADN'T TURNED DOWN AKIRA MOGAMI'S OFFER...
...THEY'D HAVE MOVED UP EVEN FURTHER BY NOW.

BUT THESE GUYS TURNED HIM DOWN FLAT.
NO MATTER HOW LONG THE ROAD MAY BE...
I JUST HOPE THAT LONG ROAD WILL EVENTUALLY TAKE US SOMEWHERE.
WE CAN'T DO IT
YEAH.
IF THEY'D BROUGHT IN THE SINGER CALLED AOI WHO WAS AT REBELLION, THEY'D HAVE GONE RIGHT TO THE MAJORS.

SOME STUFF HAPPENED, I GUESS.
W-WELL...
HOW DO I PUT IT...?

OH?
WHY'D YOU DO THAT?

IF SHE MANAGED TO CATCH MOGAMI-SENSEI'S EYE...
BY THE WAY, IS THAT AOI GIRL ANY GOOD?

SHE JUST HAPPENS TO BE SINGING ON MY STAGE RIGHT NOW.
IF YOU WANT TO KNOW, GO SEE FOR YOURSELF.

BETTER HURRY BEFORE HER SET ENDS.
WHAT ?!
AOI'S HERE RIGHT NOW?!

HA HA HA! GUESS THEY WANT TO SEE THAT SHOW EVEN MORE THAN THE HEDGE-WHATSITS THEY'RE SUCH BIG FANS OF!!
I WASN'T EVEN DONE TALKING TO HIM YET.

I'M GOING TO WATCH !!
OH! I'M GOING, TOO!
H-HEY! HANG ON, NACHI!!

...

WOOOOO
WHOA! THE CROWD'S GOING NUTS!!
YEAH...

YAAAAAH

WH-
WHAT'S
UP WITH
HER?
IT'S LIKE
SHE'S NOT
EVEN THE
SAME AOI
WHO WAS
AT REBEL-
LION.

HER
VOICE...
HER
GUITAR
PLAY-
ING...
SHE DOESN'T
EVEN COMPARE
TO BEFORE.

...WOW.
IN
JUST SIX
MONTHS...
AND ALL BY
HERSELF,
NO LESS...
WOOOOO

SHIVER

...
...TAKING THIS BASS SERIOUSLY ENOUGH.
I'M SAYING THAT HE STILL ISN'T...
WHAT IS THIS FEELING?
I'M REALLY HAPPY, BUT...
...REALLY FRUSTRATED, TOO.

OKAY, I'M SAD TO SAY IT...
...BUT THIS WILL BE MY FINAL SONG!!
AWW!! PLAY SOME MORE!!
SORRY! BUT I DO HAVE A SOLO GIG COMING UP!!
YAMMER
NOT THAT IT MATTERS, BUT HOW'S SHE GETTING HER DRUM AND BASS SOUNDS?
SHE'S THE ONLY ONE UP THERE.
SHE'S PROBABLY USING AN IPOD TO PLAY TRACKS OF HERSELF PERFORMING THE PARTS.
HUH.
I NEVER KNEW.
KA-KLONK
SLIP
AH...
UH...
SO THEN-

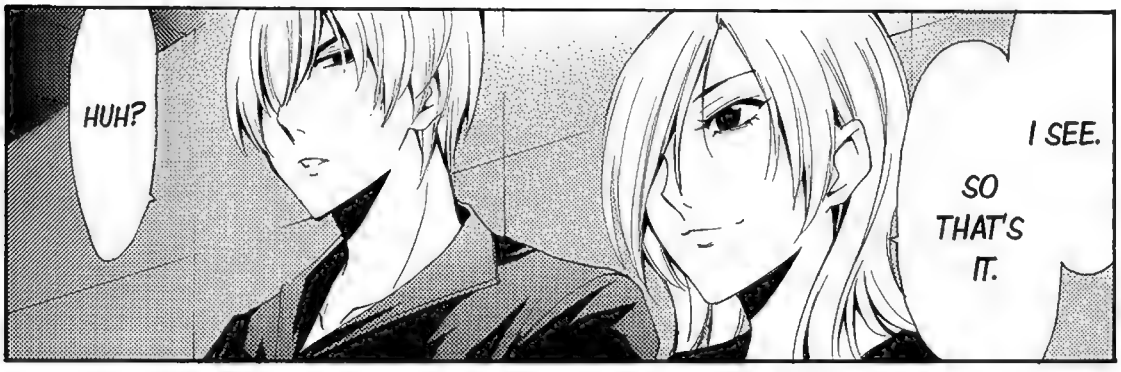
WHAT THE HECK-
-IS SHE DOING?!
HUH -?
OH NO.
THE DATA VANISHED SOMEHOW!
HUH?
WHA --?
OH!!
YUU-KUN AND THE DRUMMER!!

OH...! THEY'RE FROM THE BAND THAT OPENED FOR RABBITZ THE OTHER DAY!!
MURMUR
MURMUR
WHAT'S GOING ON? IS SOMEONE HERE?
HEY!!
SORRY, BUT CAN YOU HELP ME OUT FOR JUST ONE SONG?!
HUH...?
...

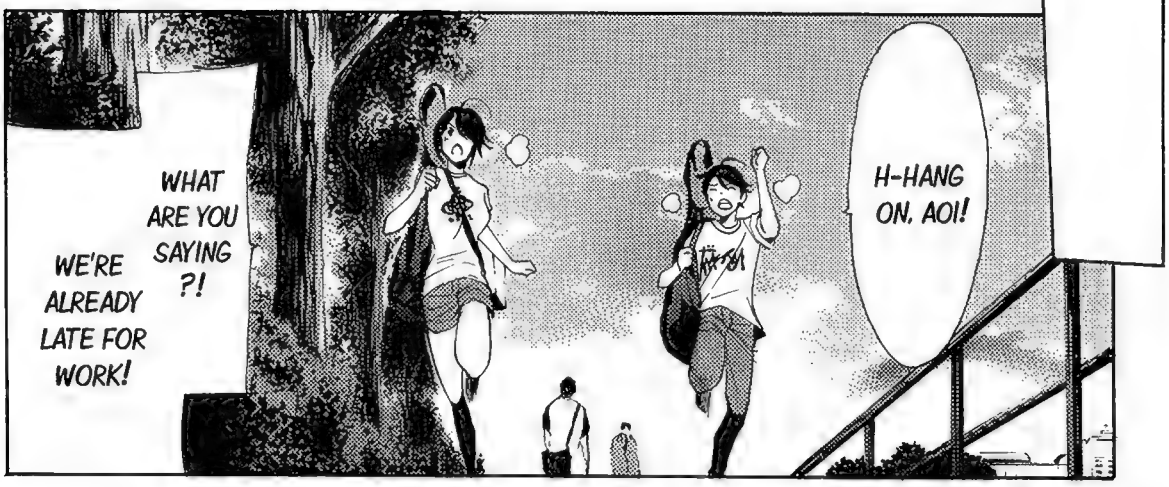
WE CAN'T GO UP THERE AND PERFORM JUST LIKE THAT!
HE'S RIGHT.
WE DON'T EVEN KNOW YOUR SONGS!
Fuuka
THEN WE CAN DO ONE OF YOUR SONGS!
FAIR WIND!!
I REALLY LIKE THAT ONE!!
GO ON UP!! I'M A HUGE FAN OF YOURS!!
WHAT?!
IS THAT THE FALLEN MOON?!
YOU'VE EVEN GOT YOUR BASS!!
OOH!! DO IT, DO IT!
THAT'S NOT POSSIBLE!!
I'M TELLING YOU...

78 KOYUKI'S FEELINGS!

I NEVER THOUGHT I'D GO TO SEE SOMEONE ELSE'S SHOW AND GET DRAGGED ON STAGE.
THIS IS INSANE.
WHAT'S THE PROBLEM? FANS LOVE THIS STUFF!
WHAT THE HECK ARE THEY DOING?
DUUN
DUUN
DUUN
DUUN
DUUN
A VOCALIST... WITH VISUAL APPEAL, HUH?
...


HUH?
I SEE.
SO THAT'S IT.

I GET THE FEEL-ING...
...OUR FESTIVAL IS GOING TO BE A LOT MORE INTERESTING THAN WE THOUGHT.
INEVIT-ABLE...
NO-- MAG-NETIC.

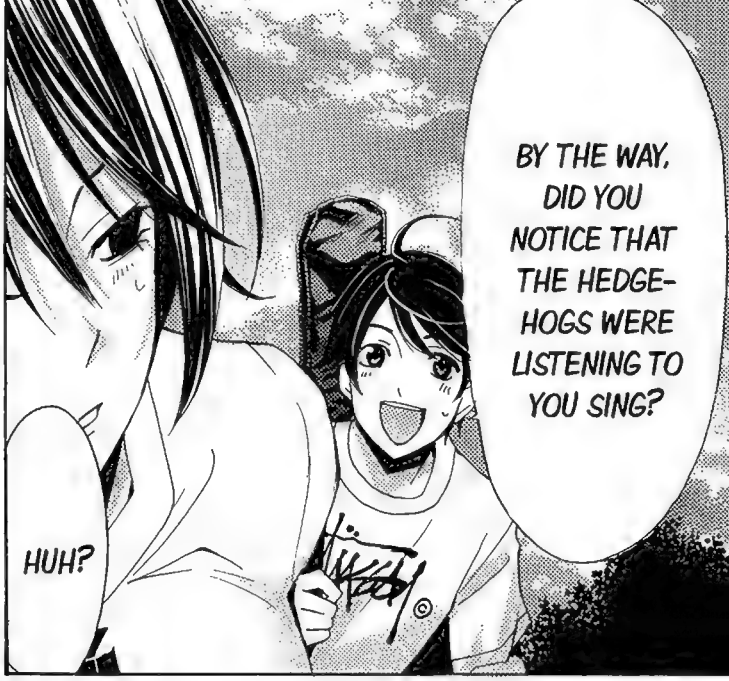

H-HANG ON, AOI!
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?!
WE'RE ALREADY LATE FOR WORK!

AND WHOSE FAULT...
HAHH
HAHH
...DO YOU THINK IT IS THAT THIS HAPPENED?

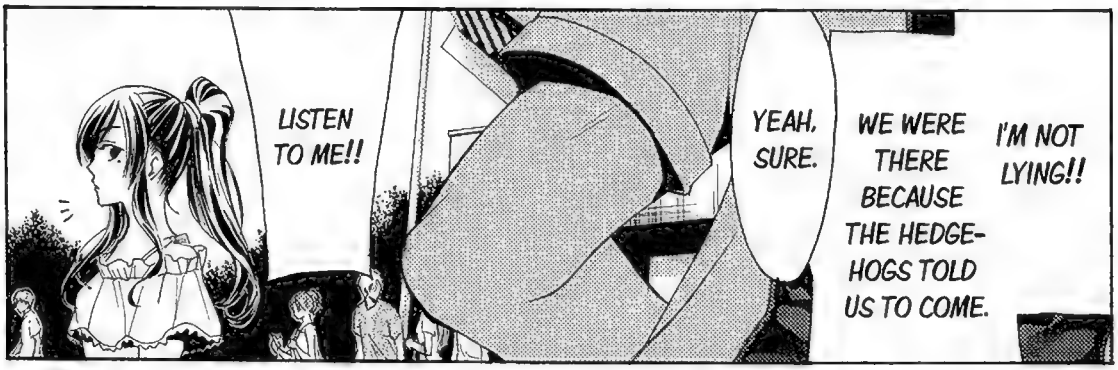
ANYWAY, I STILL THINK...
...YOU WRITE GREAT SONGS.

AND WHY DIDN'T YOU SING WITH ME, ANYWAY?!
YOU MADE ME SING IT ALONE!!
WELL... IT WOULDN'T MAKE SENSE...
...FOR ME TO SING DURING SOMEONE ELSE'S SHOW.
YOU DON'T THINK SO?

LOOK, I'M SAYING THIS FOR YOUR SAKE, YUU-KUN... BUT YOU SHOULD REALLY FIX THAT BAD HABIT OF YOURS.
NIKO AND TAMA AND YASSA-- I MEAN, NOBU-SAN.
YOU SAW THEM, RIGHT?

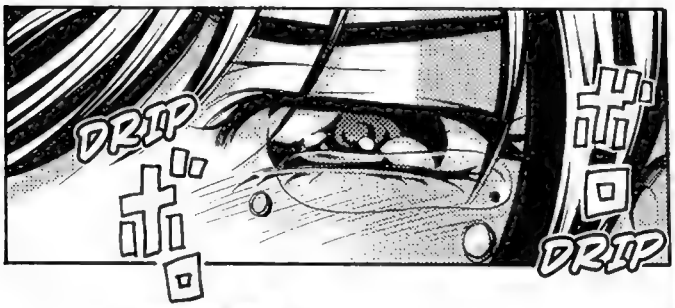


SIGN: BUDOUKAN



NIKO-KUN...
AND... IS THAT GIRL...?
FWOOMP
FWOOMP
WHEW.
I WAS WIPED OUT BEFORE I EVEN GOT TO WORK.
NOTHING GOOD COMES OF GETTING INVOLVED WITH HER.
ARE YOU FEELING OKAY?
TMP
WHOSE FAULT DO YOU THINK IT IS THAT I'M THIS TIRED?!

...
WHA --?


DRIP
DRIP
DRIP

?!
TAMA-CHAN ?!

HUH?!
YOU JERK!
I JUST REALLY WANTED YOU AND YOUR BAND TO BE OUR OPENING ACT-
THEN YOU COULD HAVE SAID NO!!

N-NO, NOT YOU!! SORRY, I THOUGHT YOU WERE SOMEONE ELSE!
I WAS REALLY HAPPY ABOUT THE CONCERT! THANK YOU FOR INVITING US!!
ANYWAY, WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
HEADING HOME FROM A JOB OR SOMETHING?
I HATE THAT LOOK YOU GET WHEN YOU'RE OBVIOUSLY TRYING TO GET ON MY GOOD SIDE!
I-I'M NOT TRYING TO DO THAT!!
I CAME TO PICK UP SOMETHING I FORGOT.
I SAW YOU OUT HERE, SO...
I'VE BEEN WORRIED ALL THIS TIME.
I HEARD YOU PASSED OUT AFTER THE CONCERT...
...BUT I DIDN'T HAVE TIME TO GO SEE YOU.
OH. WELL, I'M FINE NOW!
SEE? FIT AS A FIDDLE.
WELL, THEN...
THAT'S GOOD.

WELL...
I'M HOPING WE'LL GET THERE ON OUR OWN NEXT TIME.
YOUR BAND PUT ON A REALLY GREAT SHOW, THOUGH.
WE WERE ALL SURPRISED.
HUH-- REALLY?
YEAH. THE CROWD WAS ALL WORKED UP, SO OUR CONCERT WENT WELL, TOO.

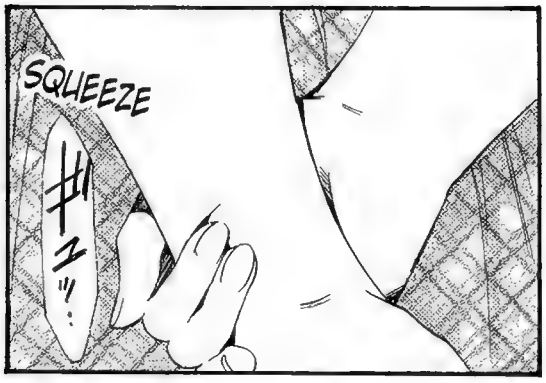
OH! YEAH.
THE SAME MANAGEMENT COMPANY REACHED OUT TO BOTH OF US, AND WE WORK HERE TOGETHER.
B-BY THE WAY...
THAT GIRL YOU WERE WITH EARLIER WAS THE GIRL FROM REBELLION, RIGHT?

...

AND YOU KNOW...
I COULDN'T BELIEVE IT!
HER NAME IS ALSO "FUUKA"!
HER LAST NAME IS DIFFERENT, THOUGH.

...HUH?

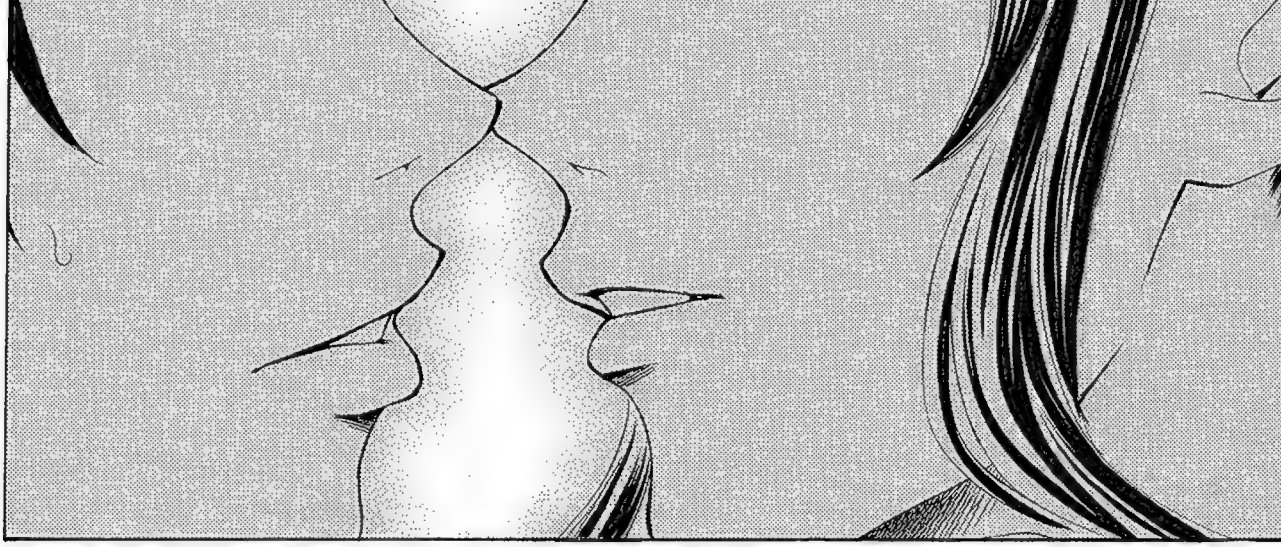
...
OF COURSE, I COULD NEVER TELL HER SHE HAS THE SAME NAME AS MY OLD GIRLFRIEND.
AND I USUALLY CALL HER "AOI."


SQUEEZE
ﾓﾐｭ!!

HUH?
W-WAIT, NIKO-KUN, ARE YOU...
...ACTU-ALLY SORT OF INTER-ESTED IN HER?

HA HA...
I DON'T THINK THAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN.
MAYBE YOU'LL END UP GOING OUT.
YOU LOOKED LIKE YOU GET ALONG REALLY WELL.
AOI SAID SHE WOULDN'T EVER GET INTO A RELATION-SHIP...
...AND I DON'T HAVE ANY INTENTION OF GETTING INTO ONE, EITHER.
I... SEE.
YOU'RE LYING. THAT'S OBVIOUS JUST FROM THE FACT THAT YOU WON'T CALL HER FUUKA.
WHOOSH
!!
?
"!

OH. SORRY TO INTERRUPT YOUR WORK.
I'M GONNA GO NOW.
ALL RIGHT. TAKE CARE.
I THINK WE'LL BE HAVING ANOTHER POST-CONCERT PARTY SOON.
I'LL LET YOU KNOW WHEN WE DO.
THANKS.
FWOOMP
I'M SURE THE OTHERS WILL APPRECIATE THE INVITE, TOO.
YOUR HEART IS ALREADY...
...
SLOWLY, BUT SURELY...
ALSO... ONE MORE THING.
HUH?
TMP



WHA...
HUH --?!

HUH --?
BUT... I CAN'T JUST WAIT AROUND ANYMORE.

...
SORRY...

I LOVE YOU, NIKO-KUN!!
I REALLY LOVE YOU!!
AH...
ER... UM.
SO I'M GOING TO MAKE YOU LOVE ME, TOO!!
Y-YOU'D BETTER BE READY!!
HUH ?!
WAIT A---

WHOA!!
HEY. WHO WAS THAT?
G-GOOD QUESTION...
I'M REALLY STUCK NOW...
HUH?

Furuka
FLUMP
I'll KICK
I'll KICK
WHY DID I DO THAT?!
DARN IT!!
I WONDER IF HE HATES ME NOW...

#79 WITHOUT THINKING!

I DIDN'T...
...GET ANY SLEEP AT ALL LAST NIGHT.
I LOVE YOU, NIKO-KUN!!
I REALLY LOVE YOU!!
I WASN'T EXPECTING HER TO DO THAT.
TWO YEARS AGO, I PROBABLY WOULD'VE BEEN THRILLED.
HEY, HARU-NA!
BUT NOW, I CAN'T JUST SUDDENLY MAKE MYSELF FEEL THAT WAY...

HA-
RU-
NA!!
Y-
YES!!
YES,
YES!
WHAT
IS IT?!

OH,
BOY.
AND
PLAY
YOUR
BASS!
DON'T
GIVE ME
THAT!
SING,
YOU
IDIOT
!!
OH--
SORRY.
I WAS
LOST IN
THOUGHT.
...

...
I
BET...

...RIGHT.
OUR SOLO
GIG AT EAST IS
NEXT MONTH.
TRY TO GET IT
TOGETHER.

TWITCH
N-NO! I--!
I WAS NOT!!
I WAS RIGHT, HUH?

...YOU WERE THINKING ABOUT A GIRL, WEREN'T YOU?
...?!

WELL, I WAS THINKING WHEN WE HELPED HER AT THE CLUB...
...THAT SHE SEEMS LIKE THE TYPE YOU'D GO FOR.
THAT AOI GIRL, I MEAN.

I DON'T HAVE ANY FEELINGS FOR AOI.
LIAR. AS SOON AS YOU HEARD SHE WAS ON THE STAGE, YOU WENT RUNNING.
THAT WAS--

...HUH?

SH-SHE DOES NOT!
NOT EVEN CLOSE!
SHE DOES SORT OF RESEMBLE FUUKA.
AOI... YOU MEAN THE GIRL WE MET AT REBELLION?

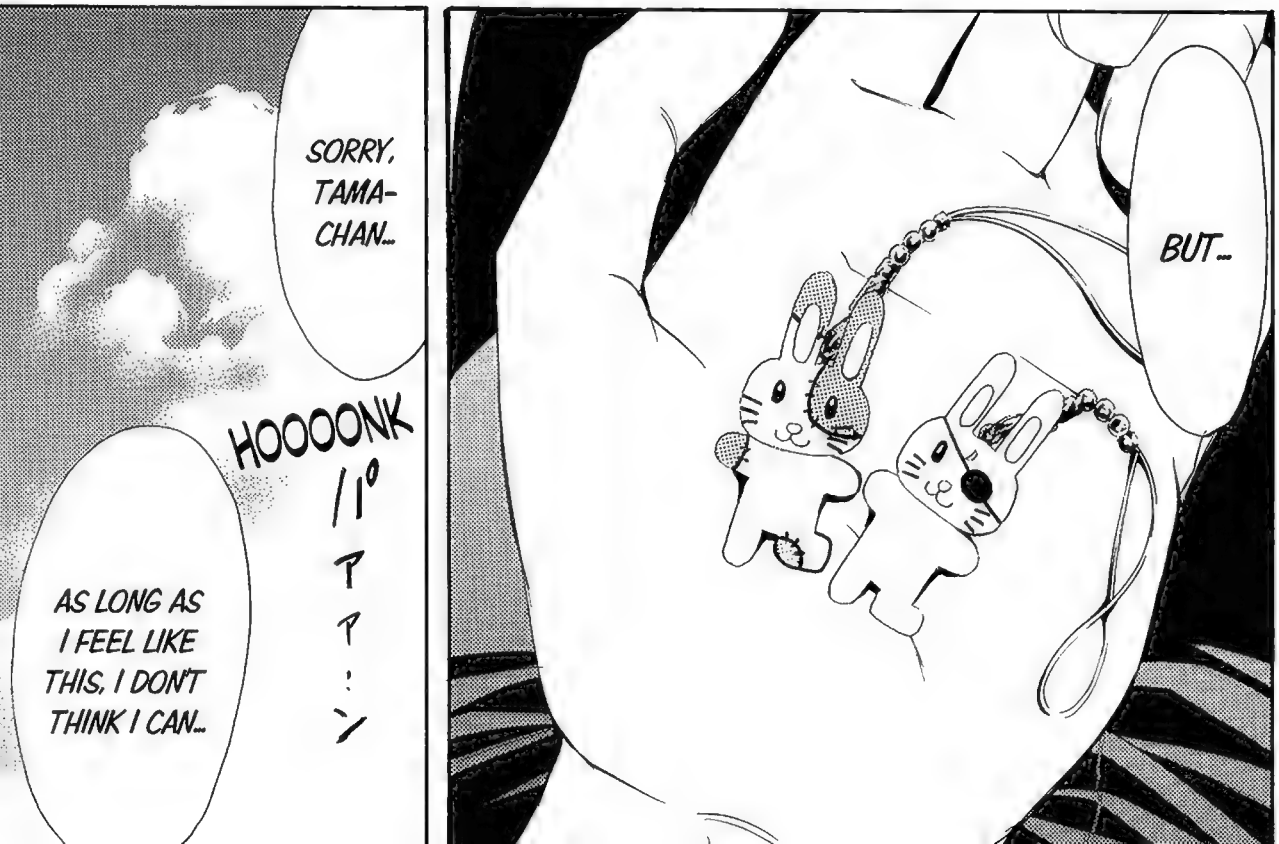
I'M TELLING YOU GUYS, IT'S NOT LIKE THAT!
I... I THINK YOU SHOULD BE FOCUSING ON THE BAND RIGHT NOW...
...YUU-SAN!!

IT'S OKAY TO LIKE HER, YOU KNOW.
FUUKA WOULDN'T WANT YOU TO LIVE THE REST OF YOUR LIFE WITHOUT LOVE.

YOU'RE SO EASY TO READ, MAN.
AH! YUU-SAN!!
ANYWAY, I HAVE TO GET TO WORK, SO I'M GOING NOW!

カタン
CLACKETTA
カタン
CLACKETTA

I KNOW THAT.
I KNOW I CAN'T DWELL IN THE PAST FOREVER.
...


SORRY, TAMA-CHAN...
HOOOONK
ヴァァーン
AS LONG AS I FEEL LIKE THIS, I DON'T THINK I CAN...
BUT...

じ～ STARE

...

WHA...

WHAT'S WITH YOU TODAY...?

RABBITZ

ラビッツ

日本武道館

NIPPON BUDOUKAN 8.16

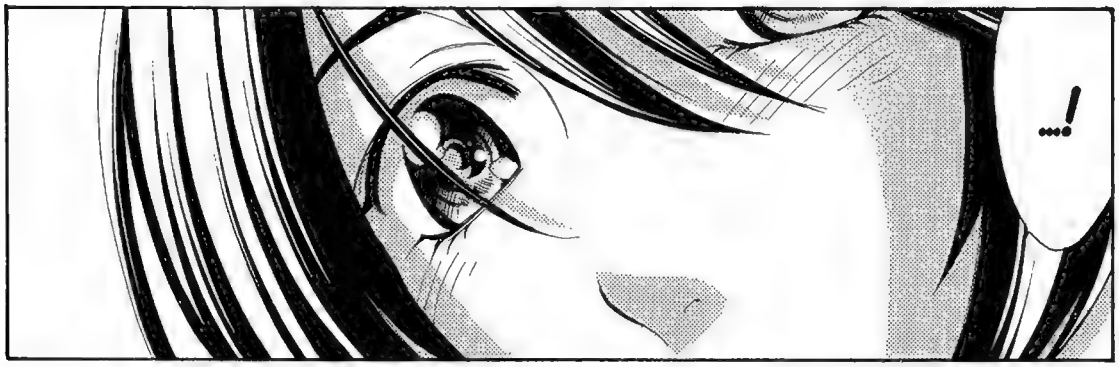
OH-- NOTH-ING.

...?

NOPE. SHE LOOKS NOTHING LIKE HER.

FLINCH
RABBITZ REALLY IS AMAZING...
WH-WHAT THE HECK?! WHY'D YOU SAY THAT OUT OF THE BLUE?! IT MAKES NO SENSE!
HUH?!
UH... NO REASON... I JUST THOUGHT OF IT WHEN I SAW THE POSTER.
YOU'VE BEEN ACTING WEIRD TODAY...
...YUU-KUN.
RIP
RIP
HOW LONG DO THEY PLAN TO LEAVE THIS UP, ANYWAY?!
THE CONCERT'S ALREADY OVER!!
WH-WHAT'S GOTTEN INTO YOU?
I-IT'S NOTH-ING.
ANYWAY, WE HAVE WORK TO DO.

AH...
KLAK
KLAK
DROP


...!

IT'S SO CUTE!
AND IT'S ONE OF THE LIMITED EDITION ONES!!

AN USAMUNE CHARM!
HUH --?

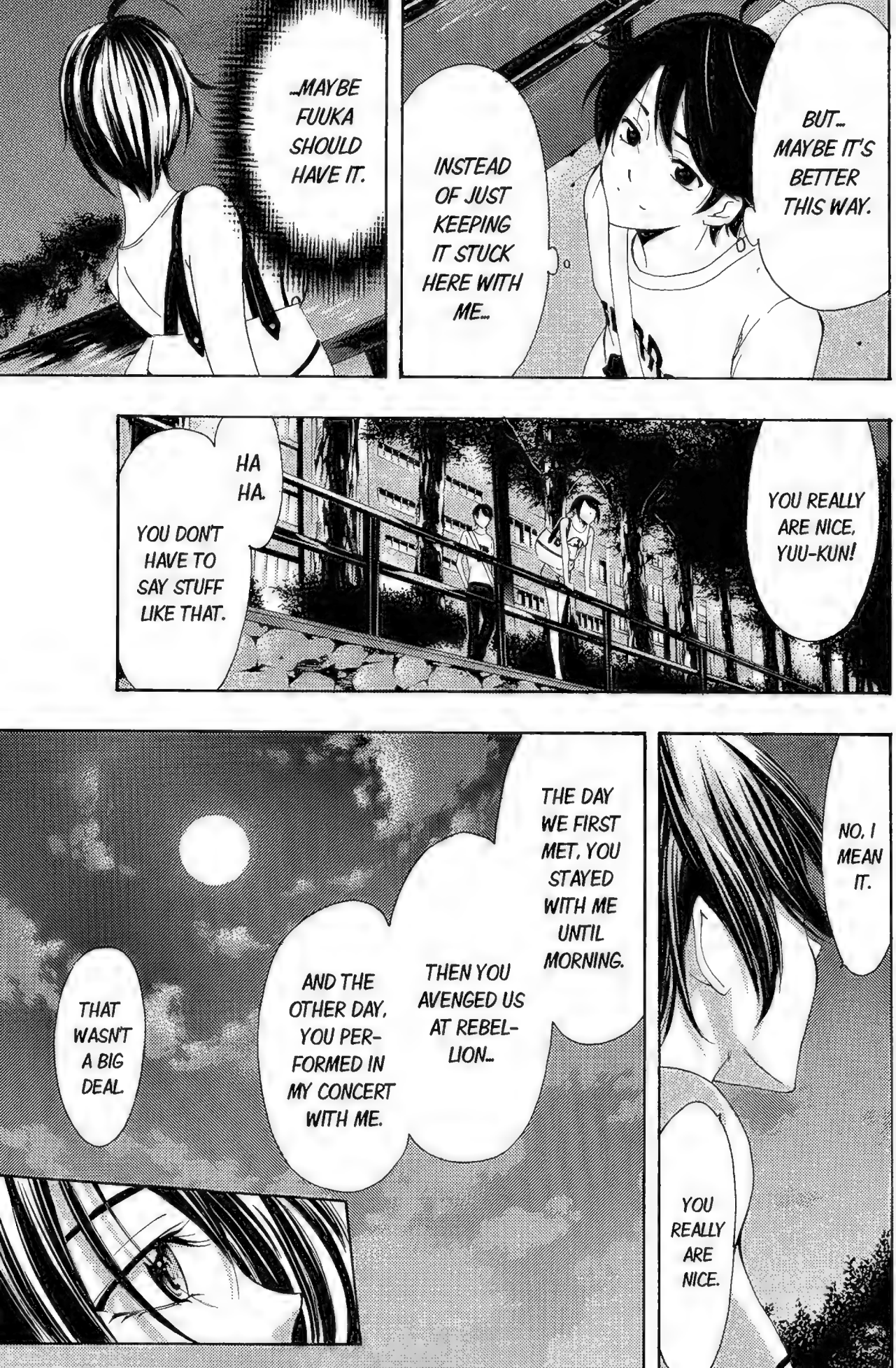
YEAH! I'VE COLLECTED A LOT OF THEM!
OH--YOU LIKE THESE TOO, AOI?

YOU THINK I COULD HAVE THIS ONE WITH THE EYE-PATCH?!
HEY!!

AWW, WHY NOT? YOU'VE GOT TWO!
I'LL TRADE YOU ONE OF MINE!
UH, BUT... THAT'S...

HUH?
BUT...

HEE HEE!
THANKS!
SHE STRONG-ARMED IT OFF ME.
...
IF YOU KEEP LOOKING BEHIND YOU, YOU'LL TRIP AND FALL.
SO KEEP WALKING WITH YOUR EYES FORWARD!


...MAYBE FUUKA SHOULD HAVE IT.
INSTEAD OF JUST KEEPING IT STUCK HERE WITH ME...
BUT... MAYBE IT'S BETTER THIS WAY.
HA HA.
YOU DON'T HAVE TO SAY STUFF LIKE THAT.
YOU REALLY ARE NICE, YUU-KUN!
THE DAY WE FIRST MET, YOU STAYED WITH ME UNTIL MORNING.
THEN YOU AVENGED US AT REBEL-LION...
AND THE OTHER DAY, YOU PER-FORMED IN MY CONCERT WITH ME.
THAT WASN'T A BIG DEAL.
NO, I MEAN IT.
YOU REALLY ARE NICE.

HUH?

N-NAH, I DON'T KNOW...
SHE WAS A LITTLE WEIRD.
REALLY?

YEAH.
SHE WAS REALLY PUSHY, AND RECKLESS, AND ALWAYS GETTING ME INTO TROUBLE.

BUT...
...
SHE WAS SO DEVOTED TO HER DREAM, I COULDN'T HELP ADMIRING HER A LITTLE.
SHE GAVE ME SO MUCH POSITIVE ENERGY, I FELT STUPID FOR BEING SAD.

I'M SURE THAT'S THE PART OF YOU...
...THAT YOUR GIRLFRIEND FELL IN LOVE WITH.

I LIKE YOUR VOICE, YUU-KUN.
SO LET ME HEAR IT MORE.
_YEAH.
KIND OF LIKE YOU.
AH --!
I... I MEAN... SHE WAS A GREAT SINGER!
WAY BETTER THAN ME!
WELL, I'VE NEVER HEARD HER SING, SO I CAN'T SAY ANYTHING ABOUT THAT...
HUH...
BUT...

I LIKE YOUR VOICE...
...YUU-KUN.

AH...
WELL, I'M HEADED THIS WAY.

...!

YUU-
KUN.
BYE
BYE...

YUU-
KUN.
BYE
BYE...

FUUKA...
HUH?

80 CURIOUS!

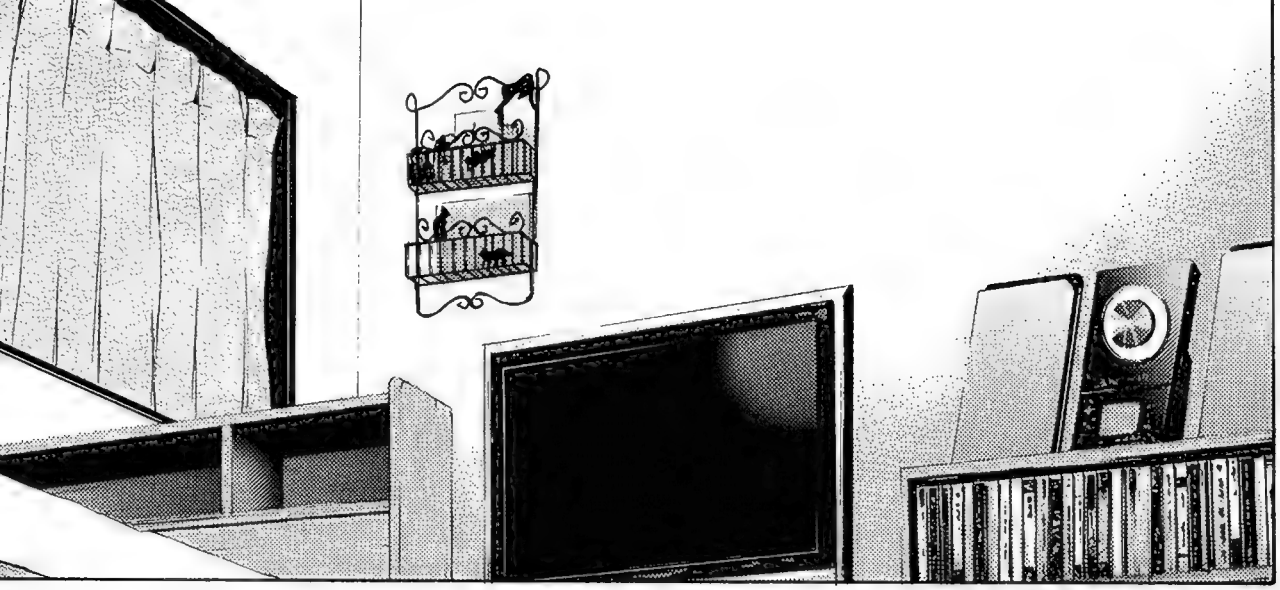
FUUKA

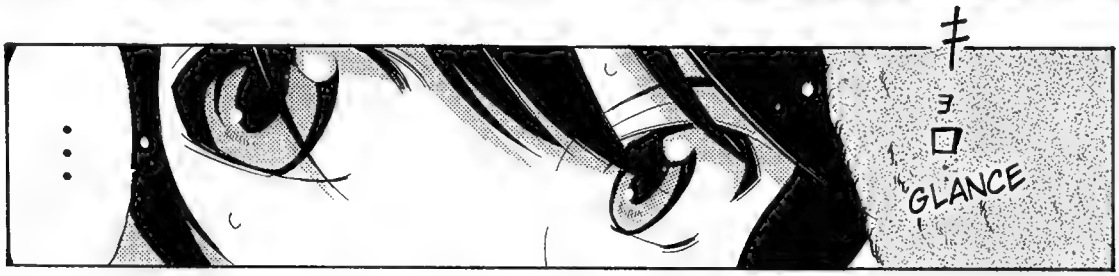
HUH ...?
UH...
WH- WHAT AM I DOING?!
S- SORRY !!
I, UH ---!
WELL, I MEAN...

I'M SUCH A JERK. COMPARING AOI TO FUUKA?
I DIDN'T REALLY MEAN ANYTHING BY IT, I JUST KIND OF... WELL...
I SHOULD JUST GO.
YEAH, IT'S NOTHING, REALLY! SEE YOU LATER !!
AH-- YUU-KUN!
I THINK IT'S A BAD IDEA TO HANG AROUND HER MORE.
...
I SEE.
IT'S NOT REALLY LIKE THAT, BUT IF I...
11° PLIP ラ
11° ラ PLIP

SIGN: AOI

WELL, THAT WAS UNEXPECTED. GUESS THAT'S WHAT THEY CALL A "GUERRILLA RAINSTORM."
...
YEAH.
GOOD THING MY HOUSE WAS SO CLOSE, THOUGH!
MAKE YOURSELF AT HOME UNTIL THE RAIN LETS UP, EVEN THOUGH IT'S JUST A TINY ONE-ROOM.
OH. THANKS.
WHAT AM I DOING?
I SHOULD HAVE JUST RUN HOME...




…
ヨコ
GLANCE

THE COMPANY PRESIDENT IS LETTING ME RENT IT.
SHE SAID I SHOULD HAVE A DECENT PLACE, SINCE LIVING ALONE IS DANGEROUS FOR A GIRL.

HEY, DON'T GO AROUND STARING AT EVERYTHING. IT'S EMBARRASSING.
OH --!
SORRY! I WAS JUST THINKING WHAT A NICE APARTMENT IT IS!
キィ
CREAK
PHERROW

SARA-SENPAI WOULD BE FURIOUS IF SHE FOUND OUT…
HUH.

ANYWAY, HOW CAN SHE SIT THERE DRESSED LIKE THAT?
IT'S RISKY ENOUGH JUST LETTING A GUY INTO HER ROOM.
WHA --?
WAIT, IS SHE...

...NOT WEARING A BR-

WHAT?

!!
UH --!

CLATTER CLATTER
Y-YOU SURE HAVE A LOT OF CDS!!
LET ME SEE!!
HUH?
SURE.

HM.
THEY'RE ALL ROCK CDS. AND YOU LISTEN TO WESTERN MUSIC, TOO.

ROCK'N ROLL
BLOOD
MUSIC

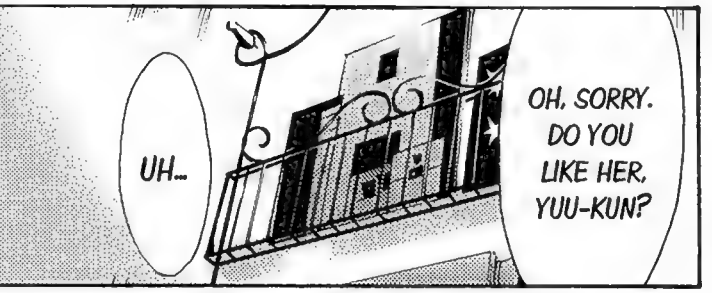
MY DAD LOVED ROCK MUSIC.
I THINK IT'S PROBABLY HIS INFLUENCE.
OH, THAT ONE'S REALLY GOOD!

SO, UH... ARE YOU INTO ANY ARTISTS THAT AREN'T ROCK?
...LIKE KOYUKI HINASHI, MAYBE?
HUH?

I REALLY LIKE KOYUKI HINASHI!!

I HATE HER SONGS!
THEY'RE ALL SO SAPPY.

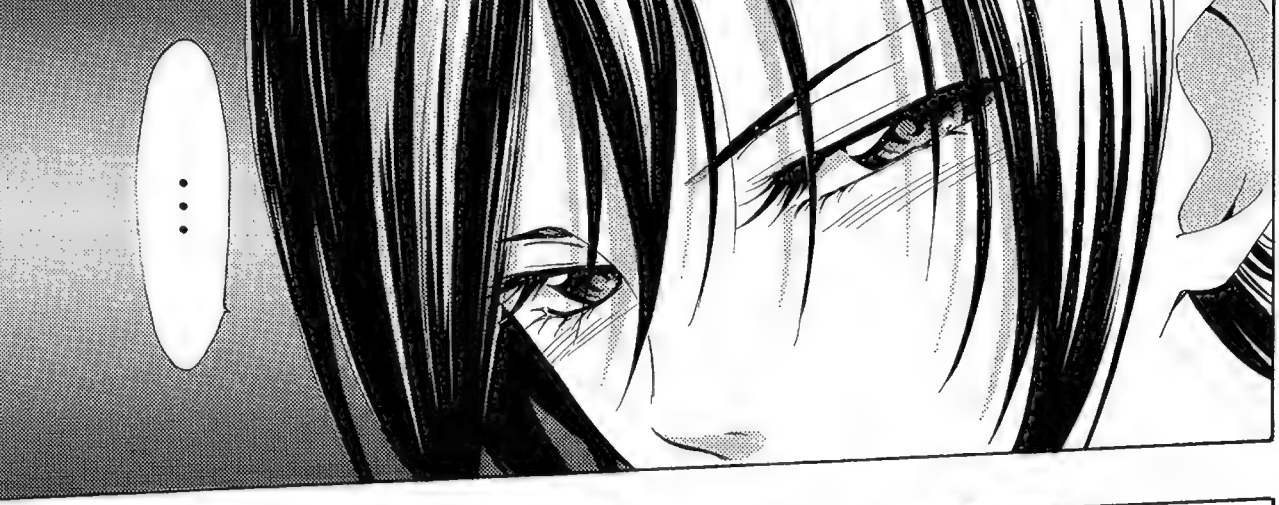
HUH?


UH...
OH, SORRY. DO YOU LIKE HER, YUU-KUN?

I BET SHE'S A REAL PAIN TO DEAL WITH!!
IT'S ALL "I MISS YOU" AND "I'M WAITING FOR YOU" AND WISHY-WASHY STUFF LIKE THAT.
IT MAKES ME WANT TO SAY, "JUST GO TO HIM ALREADY."
...

PLOP
HUH?

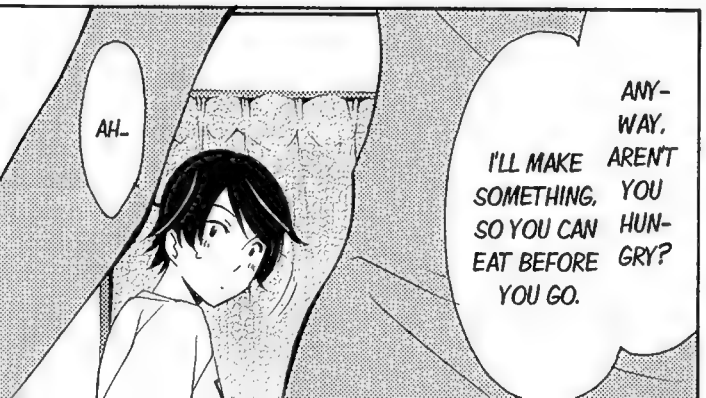
I'M A—
KER-THUMP
WHAT?! WHAT HAP-PENED?!
HUH?
SKRUT
!!


...

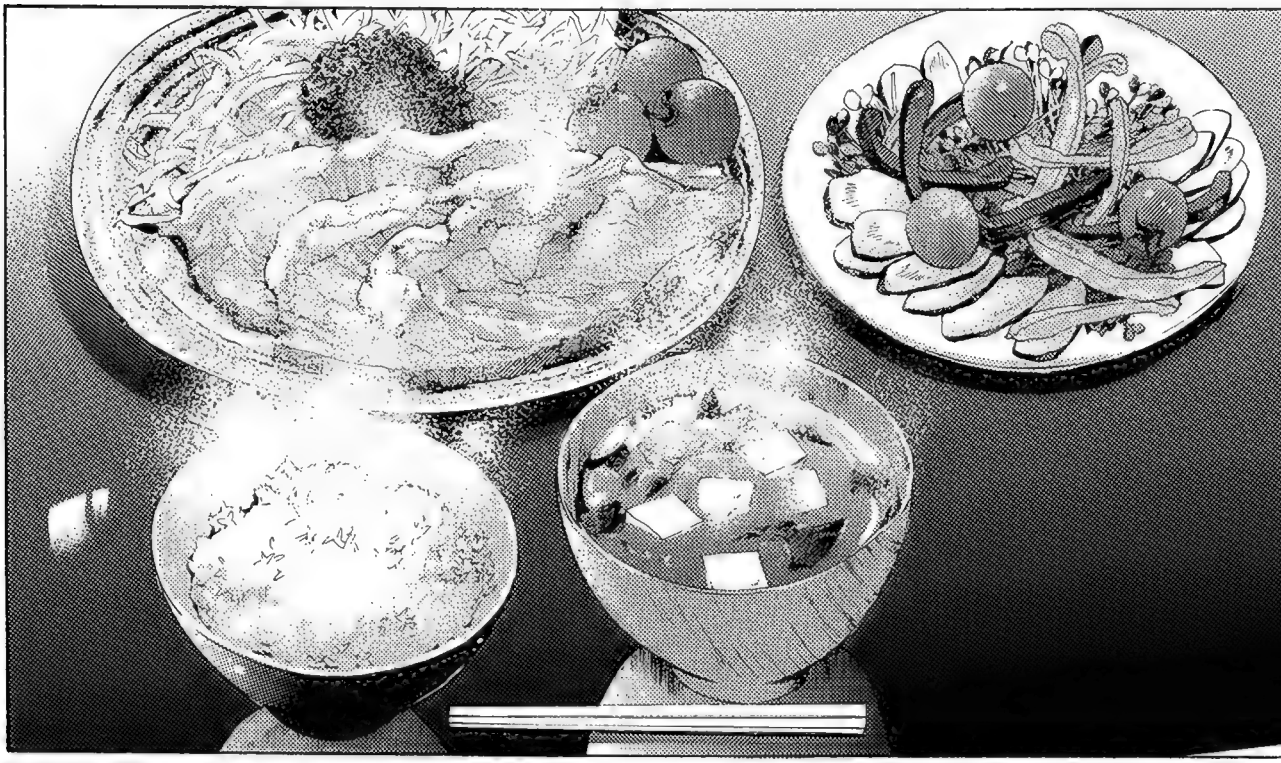
THERE WAS A WEIRD BUG...
C- CRAP!!
I'M SORRY!!

I'M NOT THAT MAD. YOU SURPRISED ME, THAT'S ALL.
ER... YOU'RE NOT GOING TO HIT ME?

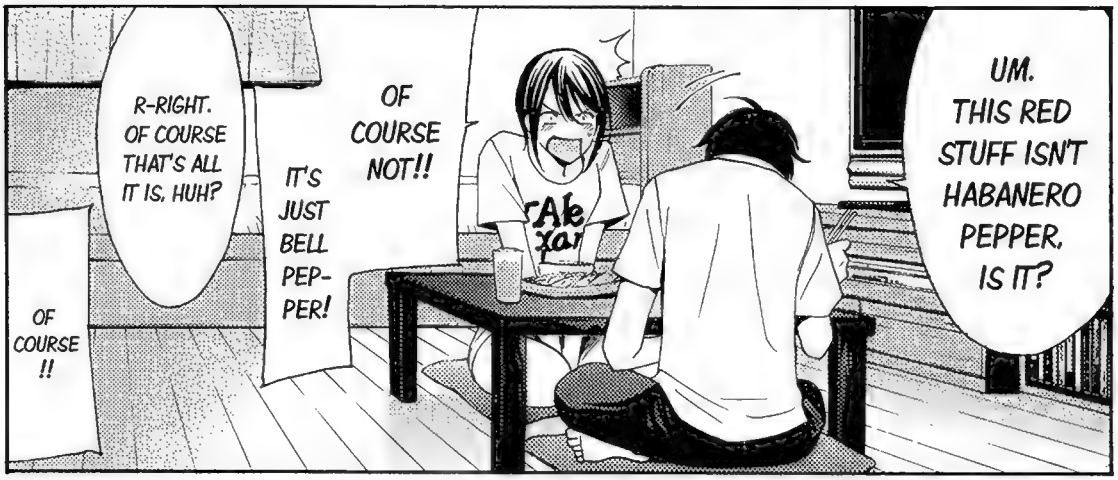
HUH --?
OH, COME ON. IT'S JUST A SPIDER.
YOU'RE SUCH A WUSS, YUU-KUN.

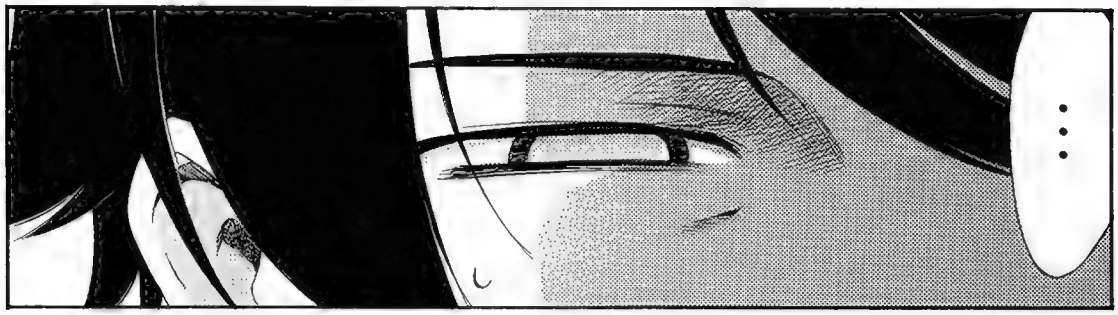

AH-
I'LL MAKE SOMETHING, SO YOU CAN EAT BEFORE YOU GO.
ANYWAY, AREN'T YOU HUNGRY?

SURE.
...



SORRY. THERE WASN'T MUCH IN THE FRIDGE.
S-SALAD, RICE, MISO SOUP, AND GINGER PORK?


UM. THIS RED STUFF ISN'T HABANERO PEPPER, IS IT?
OF COURSE NOT!!
IT'S JUST BELL PEP-PER!
R-RIGHT. OF COURSE THAT'S ALL IT IS, HUH?
OF COURSE !!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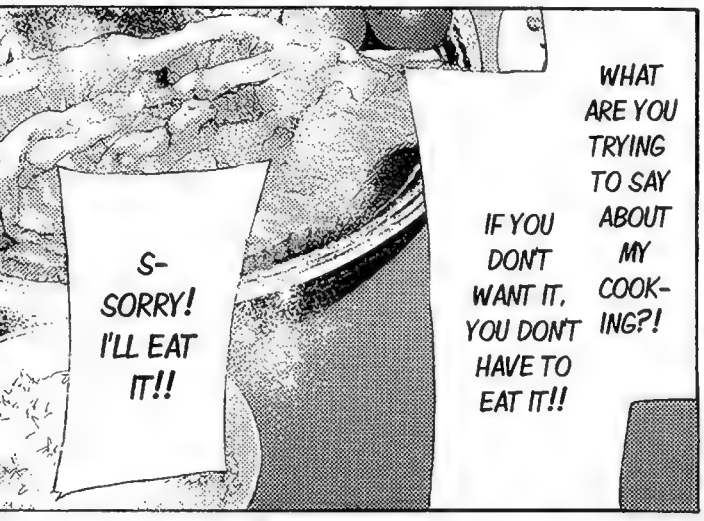

WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO SAY ABOUT MY COOK-ING?!
IF YOU DON'T WANT IT, YOU DON'T HAVE TO EAT IT!!
S-SORRY! I'LL EAT IT!!

THERE'S NOTHING EXPLOSIVE IN THE MISO SOUP, IS THERE?
OF COURSE THERE ISN'T!!

...
SLURP
ズズ…

...
YEAH, SHE'S NOTHING LIKE HER AT ALL.
OH.
THIS IS GOOD.
BETTER BELIEVE IT!

AOI IS AOI.
ACTUALLY, THIS IS REALLY GOOD!!
HEE HEE.
I MADE PLENTY, SO EAT ALL YOU WANT.
SHE'S NOT FUUKA AKITSUKI.

HM? WHAT DID?
BUT YOU KNOW, IT KIND OF MADE ME HAPPY EARLIER.

WHEN YOU FINALLY...
...CALLED ME FUUKA!

S-
SORRY.
TWINGE
WHAT?
WHY ARE YOU APOLO-GIZING?
EARLIER, WELL... SOMETHING WAS UP WITH ME.
HUH?
OH--! LOOK, THE RAIN'S LET UP!!
I SHOULD GO BEFORE I MISS THE LAST TRAIN!!
W-WAIT, YUU-KUN!

THANKS A LOT FOR TODAY.
DINNER WAS GREAT!
C'MON, STICK AROUND A LITTLE LONGER.
NAH. THE OTHERS MUSTBE WORRIED ABOUT ME.
SO, SEE YOU LATER...
...AOI.
HUH?
...
SLAM

ZZSSSHHHH
...
SHE'S NOTHING LIKE HER.
SO THEN...
...WHY DO I...
I WONDER WHY HE WON'T...
...CALL ME FUUKA?

OKAY, WE'RE GONNA HEAD TO WORK.
STAY IN BED, OKAY?
I'LL COME HOME AS SOON AS I CAN.
Fuuka
SO...
SORRY.
HAAH
WHEN OUR GIG AT EAST IS SO CLOSE...
HAAH
SLAM
JEEZ, OUR VOCALIST SURE IS A WEAKLING.
WELL, ANYONE WOULD GET SICK AFTER GETTING CAUGHT IN THE RAIN LIKE THAT.
COME ON, YOU SHOULDN'T BLAME POOR YUU-SAN SO MUCH...
...

I'M SO PA-THETIC...
MAN...

WHAT? YUU-KUN'S OFF AGAIN TODAY?
YEAH, SEEMS HIS COLD GOT WORSE.

I'D HEARD ABOUT IT, BUT WOW...
THIS HOUSE REALLY IS RUN-DOWN.

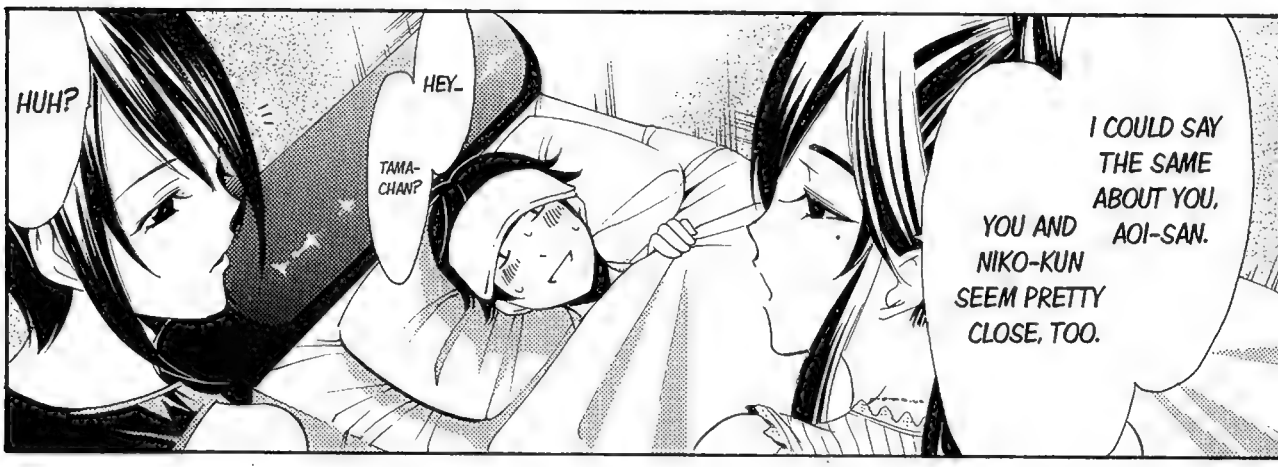
EX-
CUSE
ME...
IS THIS
WHERE
HARUNA-
SAN
LIVES?
HUH?
TMP
TMP
I
HOPE
HE'S
OKAY.
IT MUST BE
BECAUSE
HE GOT SO
DRENCHED
THAT DAY.
...?!
ピンポーン!
DING DONG
ZZZZ
ZZZZ
WHO
---?
WHO
COULD
THAT
BE...
...AT
THIS
HOUR?

Fuuka

81 VISITING THE SICK!

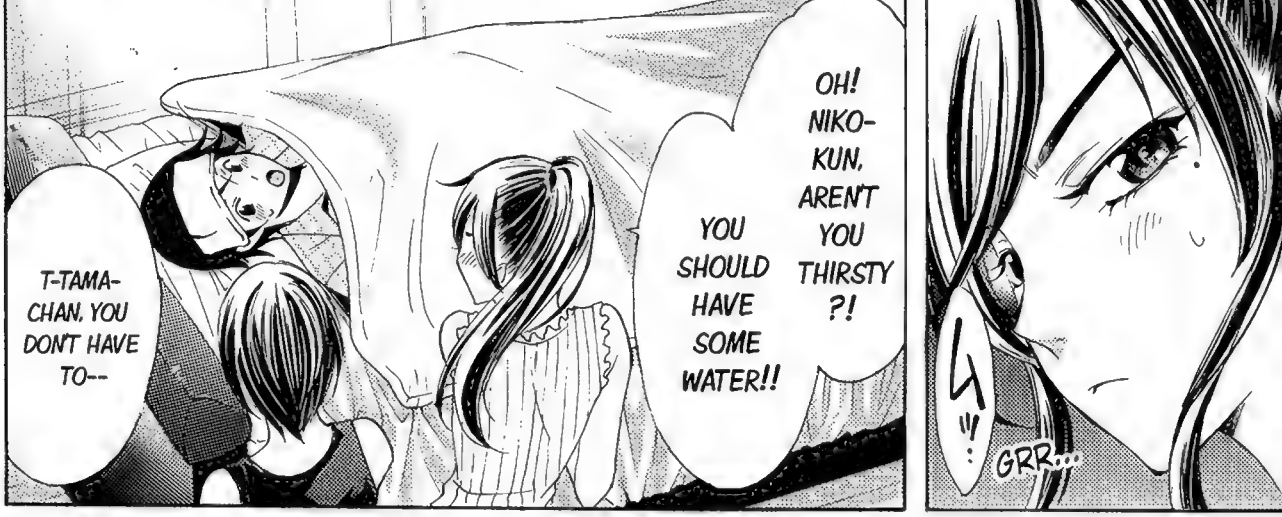
S-SO, UH... WHY ARE YOU TWO HERE TO-GETHER?
KOFF
WHAT THE HECK IS GOING ON HERE?
KOFF
KOFF
I WAS WORRIED SINCE YOU MISSED WORK TWO DAYS IN A ROW, SO I CAME OVER, AND I RAN INTO HER OUTSIDE.
AND I HEARD WHERE YOU LIVED FROM MAYA-SAN.
I JUST THOUGHT I'D COME VISIT.
IT SURE SURPRISED ME, THOUGH.
I NEVER WOULD'VE EXPECTED KOYUKI HINASHI TO TALK TO ME IN FRONT OF YOUR HOUSE.
AH-- YEAH, I GUESS I NEVER TOLD YOU.
WE'VE BEEN FRIENDS SINCE WE WERE KIDS.

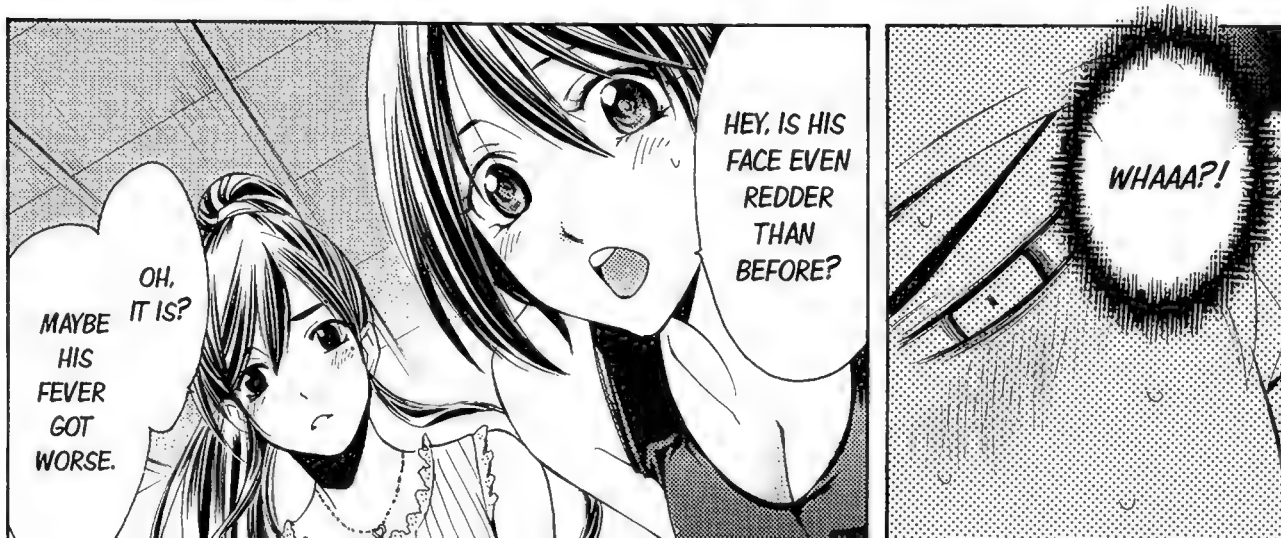
I SEE.
SO YOU TWO ARE PRETTY CLOSE.
UH...
YEAH.
...


I COULD SAY THE SAME ABOUT YOU, AOI-SAN.
YOU AND NIKO-KUN SEEM PRETTY CLOSE, TOO.
HEY...
TAMA-CHAN?
HUH?

OH, WELL.
WE WORK TOGETHER, AND WE'RE WITH THE SAME MANAGEMENT COMPANY.
WAIT... WHAT IS THIS TENSION IN THE AIR?!
WHAT OF IT?
...NOTHING.

I LOVE YOU, NIKO-KUN!!
I HATE HER SONGS!
I GUESS I SHOULD EXPLAIN TO AOI THAT TAMA-CHAN IS A NICE GIRL, AND TELL TAMA-CHAN THAT AOI'S JUST A FRIEND... WAIT, HOW EGOTISTICAL AM I, TALKING LIKE I'M SOME LADIES' MAN? WHAT AN IDIOT...
AUGH! WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO DO ABOUT THIS?!
SEE? IT'S ALREADY SO WARM...
YOU'RE SWEATING LIKE CRAZY. NEED A FRESH TOWEL?
HUH?

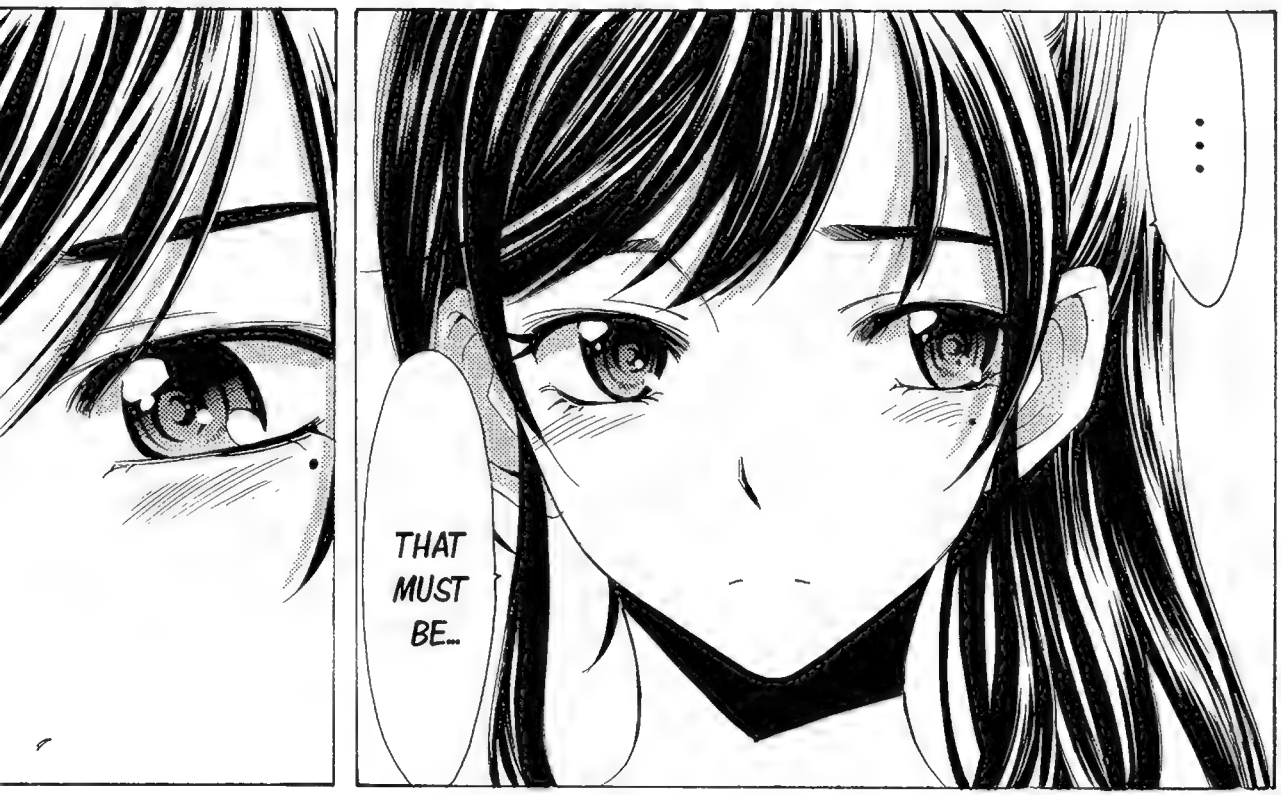

T-TAMA-CHAN, YOU DON'T HAVE TO--
YOU SHOULD HAVE SOME WATER!!
OH! NIKO-KUN, AREN'T YOU THIRSTY?!
GRR...

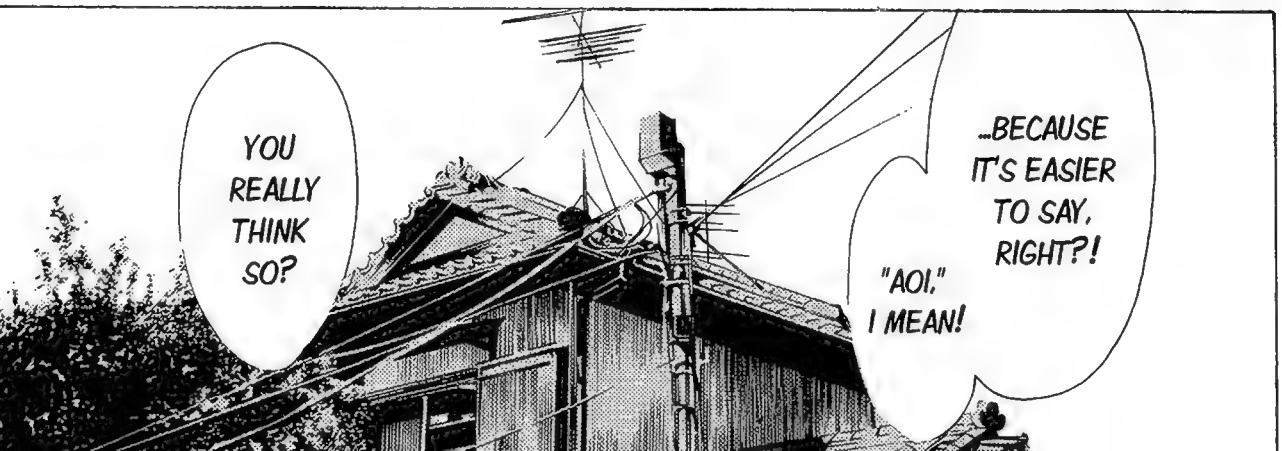

MAYBE HIS FEVER GOT WORSE.
OH, IT IS?
HEY, IS HIS FACE EVEN REDDER THAN BEFORE?
WHAAA?!

N-NO...
ROLL ゴロ
IT'S JUST--
YOU SHOULD EAT SOMETHING AND TAKE YOUR MEDICINE.
I PICKED UP SOME STUFF, SO I'LL COOK FOR YOU.
I'M GONNA USE YOUR KITCHEN, OKAY?
...!
I'LL HELP!
I KNOW MORE ABOUT WHAT NIKO-KUN LIKES!!
BUT-- I CAN DO IT BETTER ALONE.
I'M HELPING!!
O-OKAY, FINE.
...
!!!
SLAM

...
CHOP CHOP
...
...
...OUCH!!
HEY, UM...
YOU SHOULD CUT THAT THINNER...
I KNOW WHAT I'M DOING!
CHOP
HUH?
WELL, YEAH...
DID YOU GUYS LIKE THE HEDGE-HOGS GROWING UP?
YOU CALL EACH OTHER NIKO-KUN AND TAMA-CHAN...

THAT SOUNDS REALLY NICE.
YUU-KUN STILL ONLY CALLS ME BY MY LAST NAME, YOU KNOW.


...
THAT MUST BE...

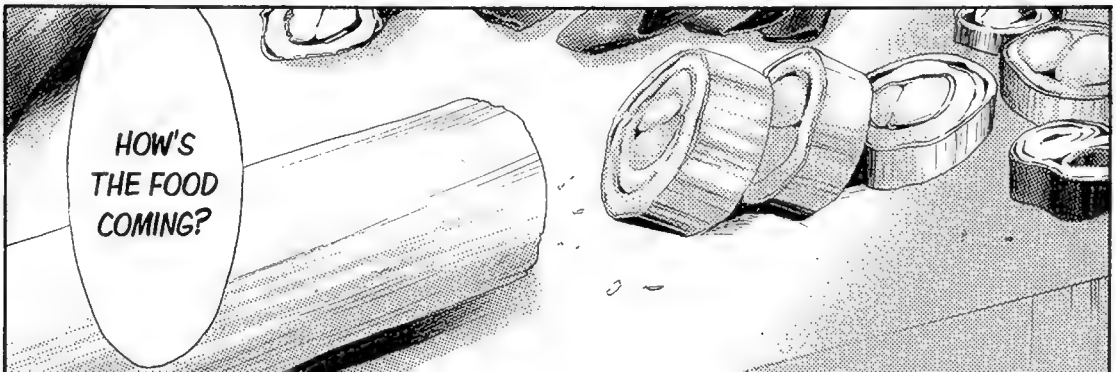

...BECAUSE IT'S EASIER TO SAY, RIGHT?!
"AOI," I MEAN!
YOU REALLY THINK SO?

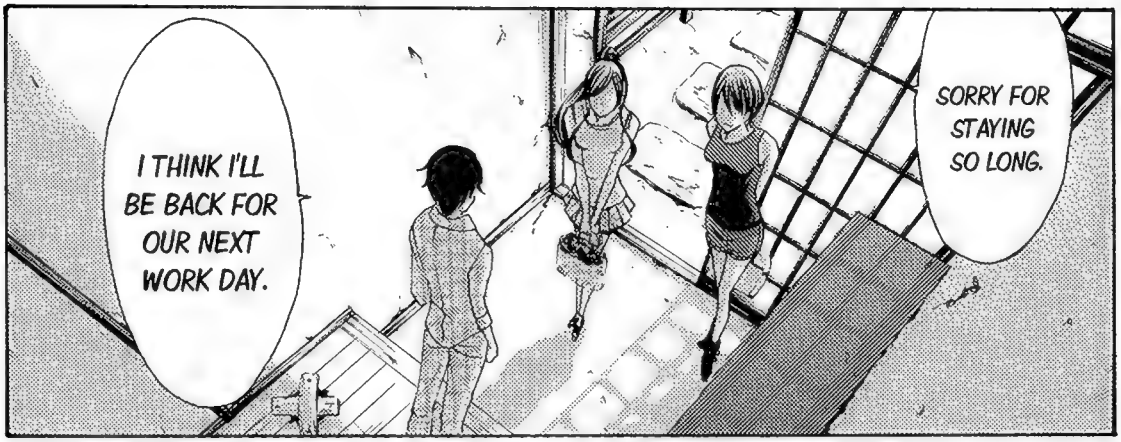
THEY'RE TAKING FOREVER...
THEY'RE NOT FIGHTING OR ANYTHING, ARE THEY?
CREAK
キ!!
CREAK
キ!!
I HATE KOYUKI HINASHI'S SONGS!!
...!!
WHOA, HARSH!! YOU'RE SAYING THAT TO MY FACE?!
I LOVE RABBITZ' SONGS, THOUGH! THEY'RE MORE AGGRESSIVE!!
HEY...
AOI!!
KA-CHAK
キ

HUH?
...

SOME-
THING
WRONG?
OH!
NIKO-
KUN.

NO,
UH...
JUST...


HOW'S
THE FOOD
COMING?


I THINK I'LL BE BACK FOR OUR NEXT WORK DAY.
SORRY FOR STAYING SO LONG.

...BUT IT LOOKS LIKE THEY'RE FRIENDS NOW.
I... I DON'T KNOW WHAT HAP-PENED...

SURE.
WANT TO WALK PARTWAY BACK TOGETHER, KOYUKI-CHAN?

HUH?
SORRY ABOUT TODAY.
I DIDN'T MEAN TO MAKE THINGS WEIRD BY SHOWING UP UNAN-NOUNCED.

THANK YOU!
NOT AT ALL.
THE MEAL TASTED GREAT, TOO!

I'M SO GLAD!
REALLY ?!

HUH?
AH... OKAY.
LATER, THEN.
AND GET WELL SOON, NIKO-KUN!

SHE...
...REALLY IS CUTE.
...
THAT STUFF ABOUT KOYUKI HINASHI'S ONE-SIDED CRUSH...
SO THAT WAS ABOUT YUU-KUN, HUH?
I JUST REMEMBERED SOMETHING.
YOU MADE BIG NEWS ON TV A WHILE BACK, DIDN'T YOU?
HUH?

...
DO YOU LIKE HIM?
DO...
WHAT ABOUT YOU?
HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT NIKO-KUN?
I DON'T HAVE ANY PLANS TO GET A BOYFRIEND.
WH-WHERE'D THAT COME FROM?!
DON'T WORRY ABOUT THAT. WE'RE JUST FRIENDS.
HUH?

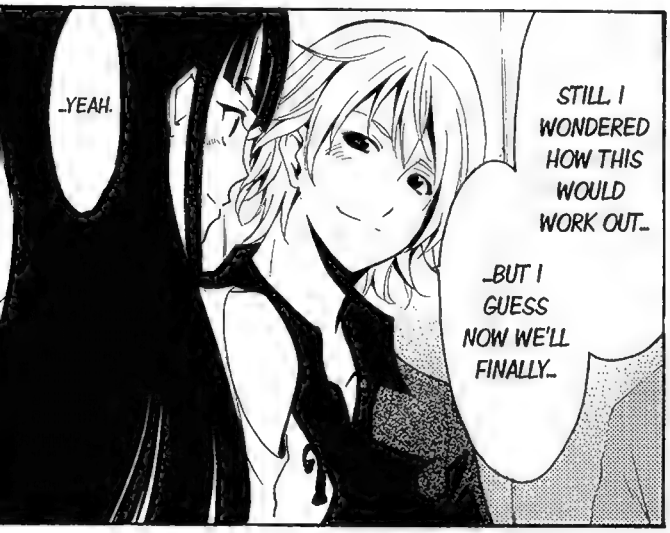
I CAN TRUST THAT, RIGHT...?
FOR REAL?
OF...
OF COURSE.
OH, GOOD! WELL, I'M HEADING THIS WAY!
SORRY FOR ASKING SUCH A WEIRD QUES-TION!!
AH...
...
WHOOOOSH

82 EAST!

WOOOOO

MURMUR
WOW. GREAT JOB, YOU GUYS!!
THAT WAS AN EXCELLENT SHOW!!
THANK YOU!
YOU'VE GOTTEN EVEN BETTER SINCE YOU PLAYED AT THE BUDOUKAN!
MURMUR

IT'S INCREDIBLE THAT YOU SOLD OUT EAST BEFORE EVEN RELEASING YOUR FIRST ALBUM.
YEAH, I'M SO GLAD IT WORKED OUT.
YOU DON'T HEAR OF MANY BANDS LIKE THAT!!
AW...

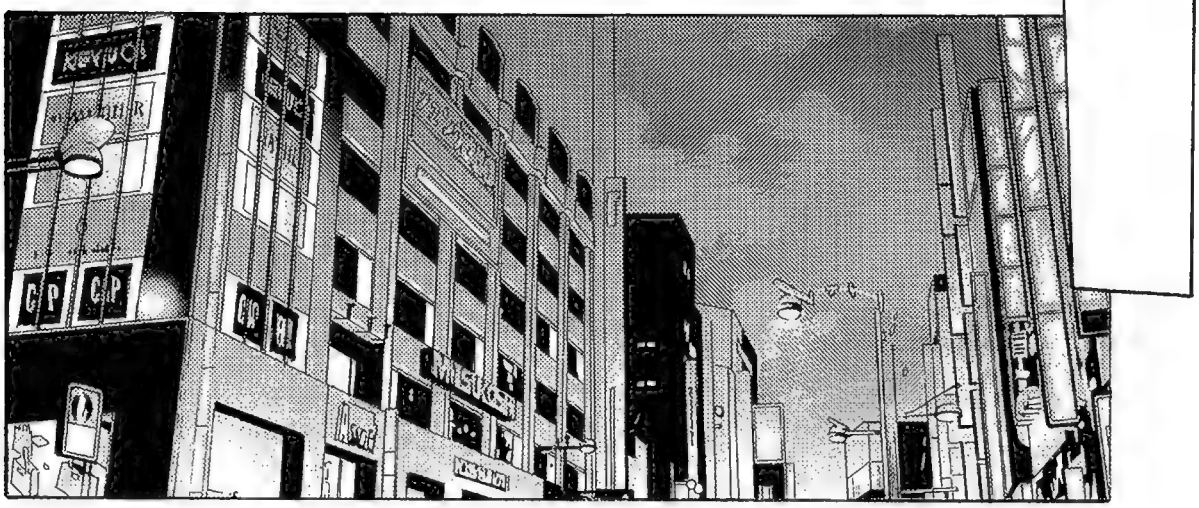

...YEAH.
STILL, I WONDERED HOW THIS WOULD WORK OUT...
...BUT I GUESS NOW WE'LL FINALLY...

WELL-- THE SOUND AND LIGHTING WORK WAS ALL AWESOME.
WE'RE REALLY GRATE-FUL.

FRANKLY, YOU SUR-PRISED ME.

I NEVER THOUGHT YOU'D REALLY SELL OUT EAST IN JUST SIX MONTHS.
I GUESS PLAYING ON THE BUDOUKAN STAGE, EVEN AS AN OPENING ACT, MADE A BIG DIFFERENCE.
MLINCH もぐ"
もぐ" MLINCH
THEY ALL WORKED HARD. YOU CAN PRAISE THEM MORE THAN THAT.
WHY THE LONG FACE, ANYWAY?
AS PROMISED, I'LL GIVE YOU KIDS YOUR PROFESSIONAL CONTRACT.
AH... HEY..
I'LL BE IN TOUCH ABOUT WHERE WE'LL GO FROM HERE.
HAVE A GOOD NIGHT.

AND YOU ONLY HAD A PROVISIONAL CONTRACT?
HA HA. SHE'S ALWAYS LIKE THAT.
DUNNO IF YOU'D CALL IT "COOL" OR WHAT. THAT LADY PRESIDENT IS PRETTY UNUSUAL.
SLAM
STILL, THOUGH...
IT'S DISGUSTING HOW PATRONIZING YOU SOUND.
IF WE'RE TALKING ABOUT THAT, WE THREE DID DROP OUT OF HIGH SCHOOL.
HUH?
YEAH.
NOW I REALLY AM GLAD... ...I TURNED DOWN A COLLEGE RECOMMENDATION TO DO THIS WITH YOU GUYS.
HEY!! DON'T LEAVE YOUR LEADER BEHIND!
OKAY!!
WE'VE GOT THE RESTAURANT BOOKED!
COME ON, YOU GUYS. WE'VE GOT AN AFTER-PARTY TO GET TO.
WH-WHY DO YOU GUYS HAVE TO TALK LIKE THAT?!


REVIVO
C/P
C/P
C/P
M'S CLOSET
M'S CLOSET

SORRY.
NO WONDER YOU'VE SEEMED SO WIPED OUT AT WORK.
SO YOU WERE OUT PARTYING LIKE CRAZY ALL NIGHT.

I HEARD YOU MANAGED TO PLAY AT 50 DIFFERENT CLUBS IN SIX MONTHS, TOO!
NOW YOU GET AN OFFICIAL CONTRACT, HUH?

BUT, HEY, CONGRATU-LATIONS! YOU COMPLETED YOUR TASK!
AND YOUR CONCERT WAS REALLY GOOD.

...
...YEAH.
I THOUGHT THERE WAS NO WAY WE'D EVER MAKE IT. BUT NOW WE'RE FINALLY AT THE START-ING LINE.
O-OH, RIGHT-- DID YOU HEAR?!
THE HEDGE-HOGS ARE SPONSORING THEIR OWN FESTIVAL!!
HUH?
HUH?!
AH... NOTH-ING.
WHAT IS IT?

OH, YEAH.
TAMA-CHAN TOLD ME ABOUT THAT THE OTHER DAY!
AND THEY'RE ONLY INVITING YOUNG BANDS!!
IT'S GOING TO BE THIS NOVEMBER, AT LAKE YAMANAKA!
...HUH?
WE'D BETTER WORK HARD SO WE CAN DO SHOWS LIKE THAT, TOO!
APPARENTLY RABBITZ AND LE BARD WILL BE IN IT.
IT'S KIND OF FRUSTRATING THAT PEOPLE MY AGE ARE GETTING SO FAR AHEAD OF ME.
YEAH.
...

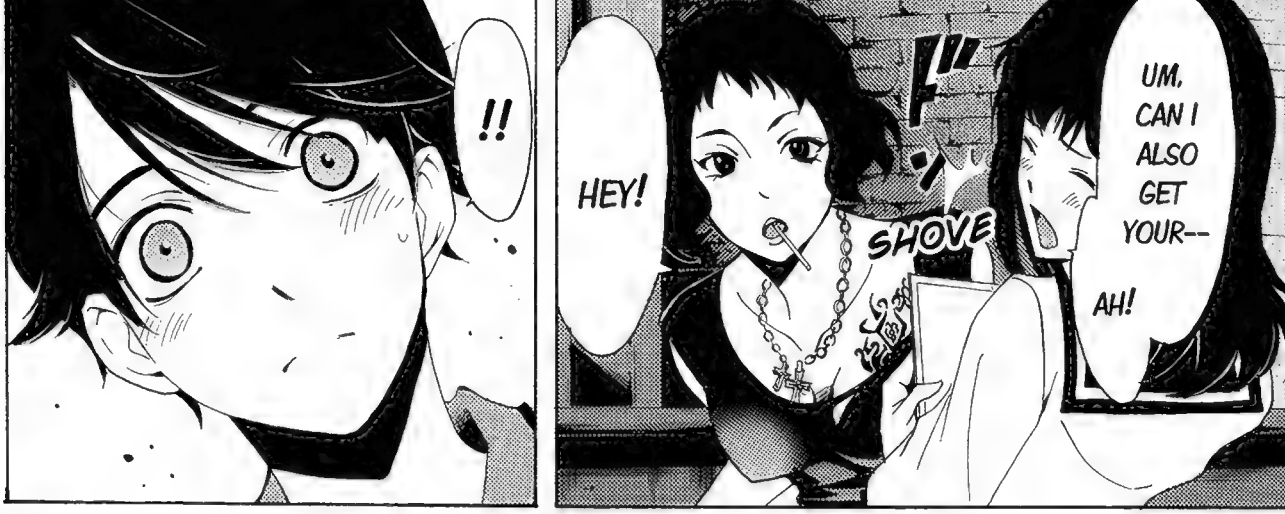
...
ER...
WHAT'S WRONG?
HM?
WOW, LUCKY YOU!!
THANK YOU!!
I NEVER THOUGHT I'D RUN INTO HER HERE!!
I KNOW !!
EX-CUSE ME!!
COULD I GET YOUR AUTO-GRAPH, TOO?!
..WHAT'S GOING ON?
IS SOMEONE FAMOUS OUT HERE?
OH --!

IT'S ICHIGO MOCHIZUKI!
HUH? WHO'S THAT?
YOU DON'T KNOW HER?!
SHE'S THE VOCALIST OF COLT PYTHON! THEY JUST WENT MAJOR THIS YEAR!

THEY WRITE METAL-TYPE SONGS, BUT THEY'RE REALLY UNIQUE AND ORIGINAL.
THERE.
THANK YOU!!
MAGAZINES HAVE BEEN CALLING THEM GENUISES.
G-GEN-IUSES_

WILD?
I'VE HEARD THEIR CON-CERTS GET REALLY WILD.
THEIR FANS ARE SUPPORTIVE TO THE POINT OF FANATICAL

LIKE MOSH PITS AND STAGE-DIVING AND FIGHTS BREAKING OUT.
PEOPLE SAY IT WOULDN'T BE SURPRISING IF SOMEONE DIED.
WH-WHAT KIND OF CONCERT IS THAT?
THAT'S INCREDIBLY SCARY.


!!
HEY!
SHOVE
UM, CAN I ALSO GET YOUR--
AH!

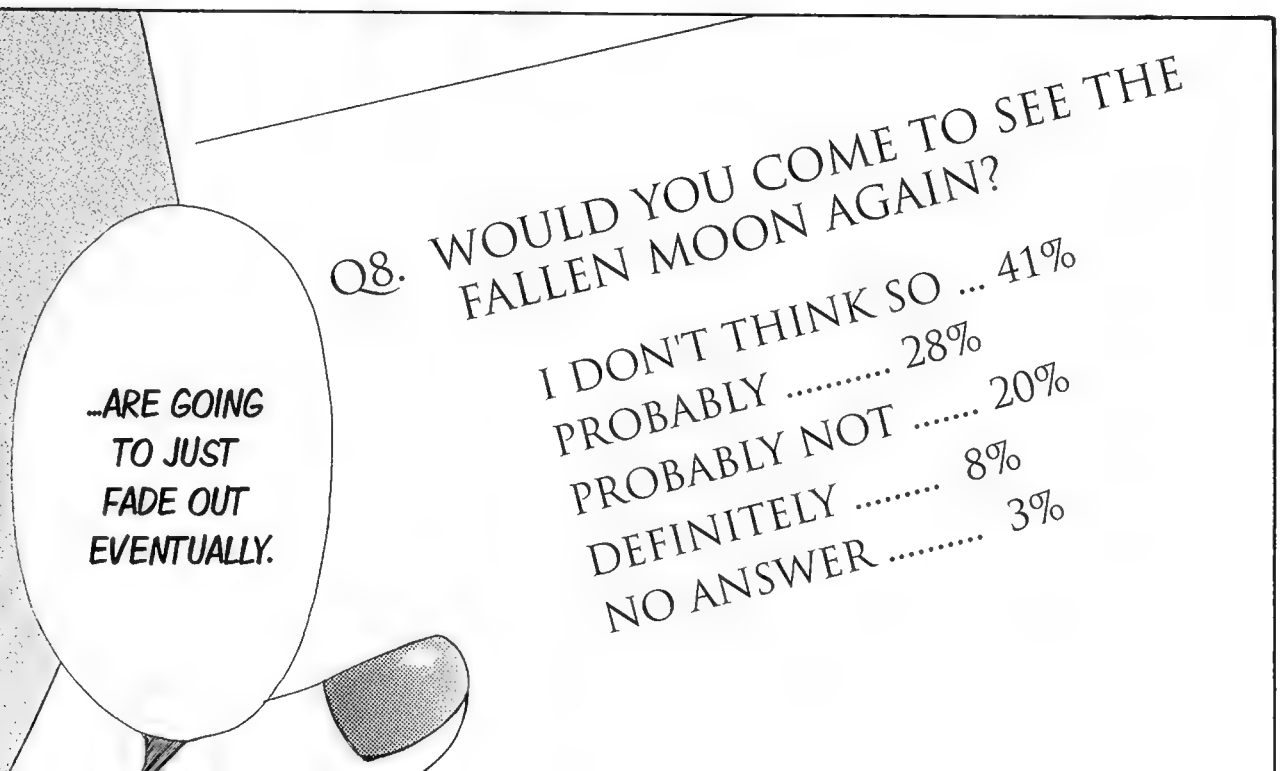
I WAS AT EAST YESTER-DAY.
AND YOU'VE BEEN PLAYING AT CLUBS ALL OVER THE PLACE, RIGHT?
TROT
TROT
YOU'RE YUU HARUNA AND FUUKA AOI!
HUH?!
H-HOW DO YOU KNOW WHO WE ARE?

OH, MAN--! I THINK THIS IS IT!!
THANK YOU FOR COMING.
Y-YEAH.
WHOA! WHAT?!
IS SHE POS-SESSED ?!
I KNOW THAT!! FUCK!!
AUGH, DAMN IT!!
UH-- THANKS.
..??
YEAH. REAL GOOD.
BOTH OF YOU.
YEAH. YOUR SONGS ARE GOOD.

BUT THEY JUST DON'T STAY WITH YA. Y'KNOW, RIGHT HERE?
THEY'RE LIKE CANDY THAT JUST MELTS AWAY.
WHA...
WH-WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY...

...
PRESIDENT AMAYA.
I'VE FINISHED COMPILING THE RESULTS OF THE QUESTIONNAIRE DISTRIBUTED BEFORE YESTERDAY'S SHOW.
OH, THAT WAS QUICK.

AT THIS RATE, THOSE KIDS...
I THOUGHT SO.


...ARE GOING TO JUST FADE OUT EVENTUALLY.
Q8. WOULD YOU COME TO SEE THE FALLEN MOON AGAIN?
I DON'T THINK SO ... 41%
PROBABLY 28%
PROBABLY NOT 20%
DEFINITELY 8%
NO ANSWER 3%

NONE	CHAIN
COLT PYTHON	EMU
RABBITZ	B-SKE
LE-BARD	

I'LL TAKE RESPONSIBILITY. GO AHEAD AND CALL THEM.

The Fallen Moon

Fuuka Aoi

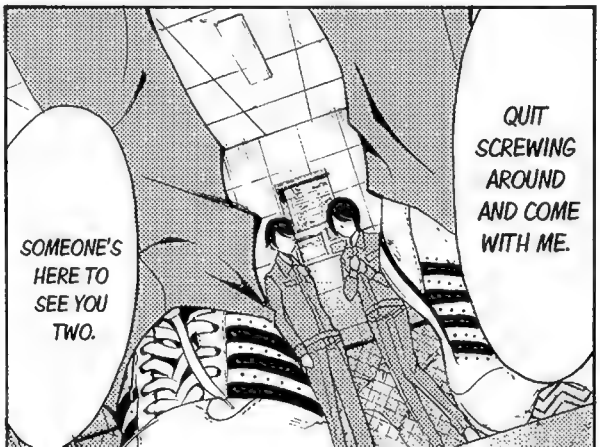
83 DIRECT NEGOTIATION!

HEY, YUU-KUN, WHAT DO YOU THINK?
ABOUT WHAT?
ABOUT WHAT ICHIGO MOCHIZUKI SAID TO US YESTERDAY!
THAT OUR SONGS DON'T STICK WITH YOU-- IN HERE!
WHA --!
FWAP

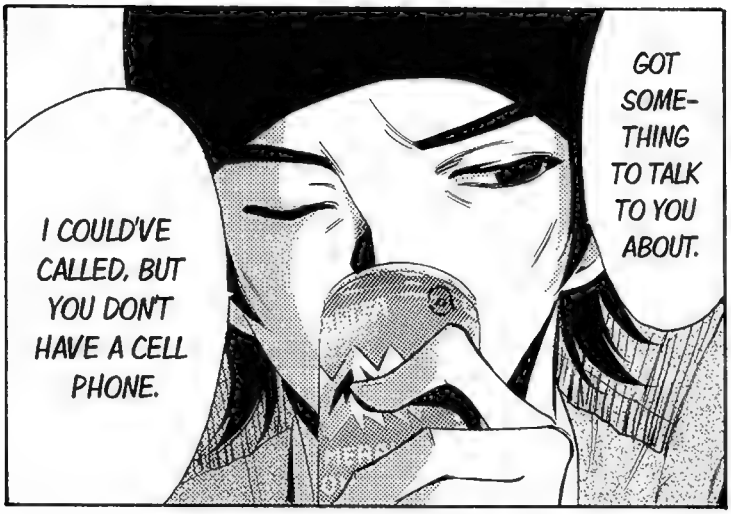
THAT'S LIKE, IN YOUR HEART, RIGHT?
WHAT DO YOU SUPPOSE SHE MEANT BY THAT?
H-HANG ON! WHAT ARE YOU DOING, AOI?!
COME ON, LISTEN TO ME!
THIS MIGHT BE SOME-THING REALLY IMPOR-TANT!
OKAY, I GET IT! JUST CALM DOWN A LITTLE!!

HEY, SAVE THAT STUFF FOR WHEN YOU GET HOME!
H U H ?!
W-WE WEREN'T --!

TO SEE US?
WHO COULD IT BE?


QUIT SCREWING AROUND AND COME WITH ME.
SOMEONE'S HERE TO SEE YOU TWO.

YO.
PART-TIME BOY.

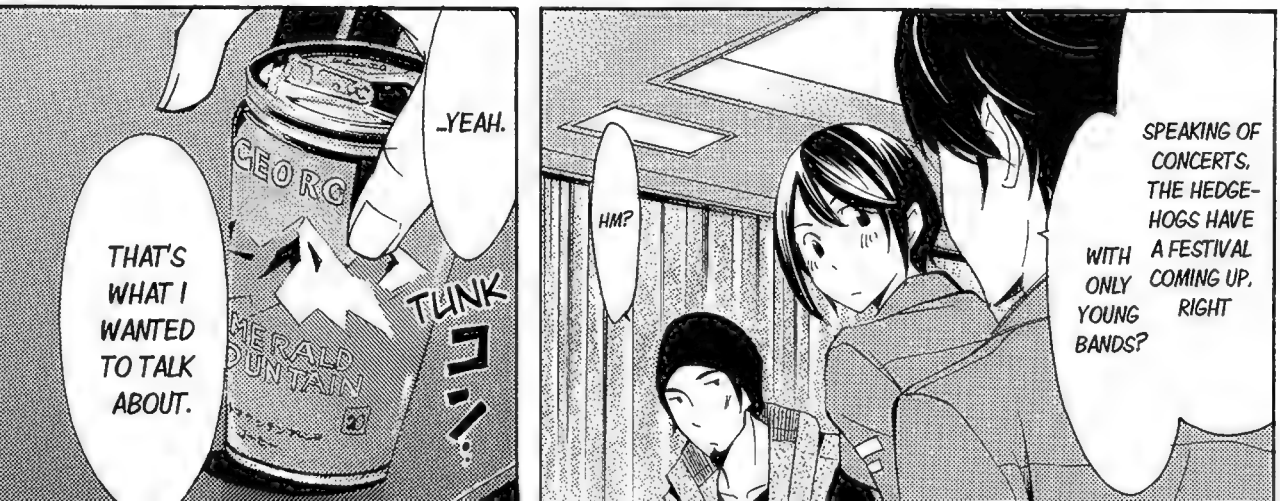

GOT SOME-THING TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT.
I COULD'VE CALLED, BUT YOU DON'T HAVE A CELL PHONE.

HUH?
YOU'RE THE ONE HERE TO SEE US, YASSAN?
?!

WAIT, ARE YOU NOBU-SAN FROM THE HEDGE-HOGS?!
HUH?!
Y-YEAH.

UM!!
UM!!
I'M A HUGE FAN!! PLEASE GIVE ME YOUR AUTO-GRAPH!!
UH, SURE. LATER, OKAY?
SHAKE
SHAKE
I-I TOLD YOU BEFORE!
I MET HIM AT HIS BEACH HOUSE!!
WHAT?! THAT WAS TRUE?!
WHA-- HOW COME?!
HOW DO YOU KNOW HIM, YUU-KUN?!

EEEEE!!
NIKO AND TAMA HAD GOOD THINGS TO SAY ABOUT IT, TOO.
ANYWAY, YOUR CONCERT THE OTHER DAY WAS PRETTY GOOD.


THAT'S WHAT I WANTED TO TALK ABOUT.
..YEAH.
TUNK
HM?
WITH ONLY YOUNG BANDS?
SPEAKING OF CONCERTS, THE HEDGE-HOGS HAVE A FESTIVAL COMING UP, RIGHT

YOU GUYS WERE BOTH INVITED TO PARTICIPATE, TOO...
BUT APPARENTLY YOUR MANAGE-MENT TURNED IT DOWN.

...WHAT?
TURNED IT... DOWN?

DID THE IDEA OF A FESTIVAL FREAK YOU OUT?
I WANTED TO ASK YOU WHAT WAS GOING ON IN PERSON.

SIGN: 4F TWINKLING STAR LTD.

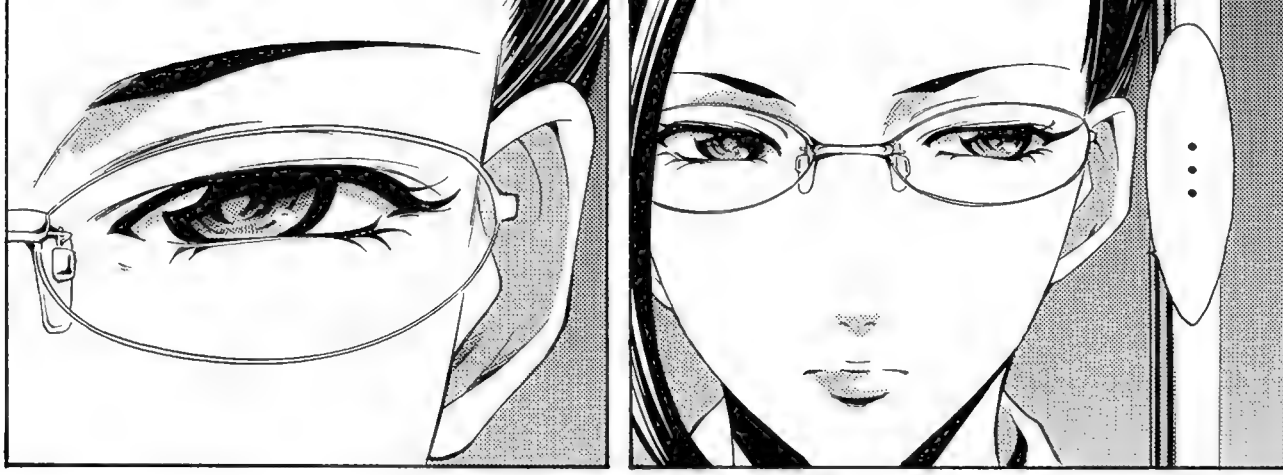
WE WON'T ACCEPT THAT!!
WE SOLD OUT OUR GIG AT EAST.
AND AOI'S GOT ENOUGH SKILL TO PULL AUDIENCES OF 400 AT HER SOLO CONCERTS!!

SKRUT
W-WELL, YEAH.
THE ACTS APPEARING AT THAT FESTIVAL ARE LE BARD, RABBITZ, ICHIGO MOCHIZUKI-- ALL ARTISTS WHO PLAY AT BUDOUKAN LEVEL.
AND WHAT OF IT?

IF YOU PARTICIPATE IN AN EVENT LIKE THAT AS REPRESENTATIVES OF THIS COMPANY...
...AND END UP RUINING OUR REPUTATION. THERE'LL BE BIG TROUBLE.

UM-- I'M ASKING YOU, TOO!
AN OPPORTUNITY LIKE THIS DOESN'T COME OFTEN!

WE WOULDN'T DO ANYTHING TO RUIN YOU!
PLEASE LET US DO THIS!!
YEAH! WE JUST HAVE TO SHOW SOLID RESULTS, RIGHT?!


...

...FINE.

IF YOU CAN SAY ALL THAT, I'LL LET YOU DO IT.

R-REALLY?!

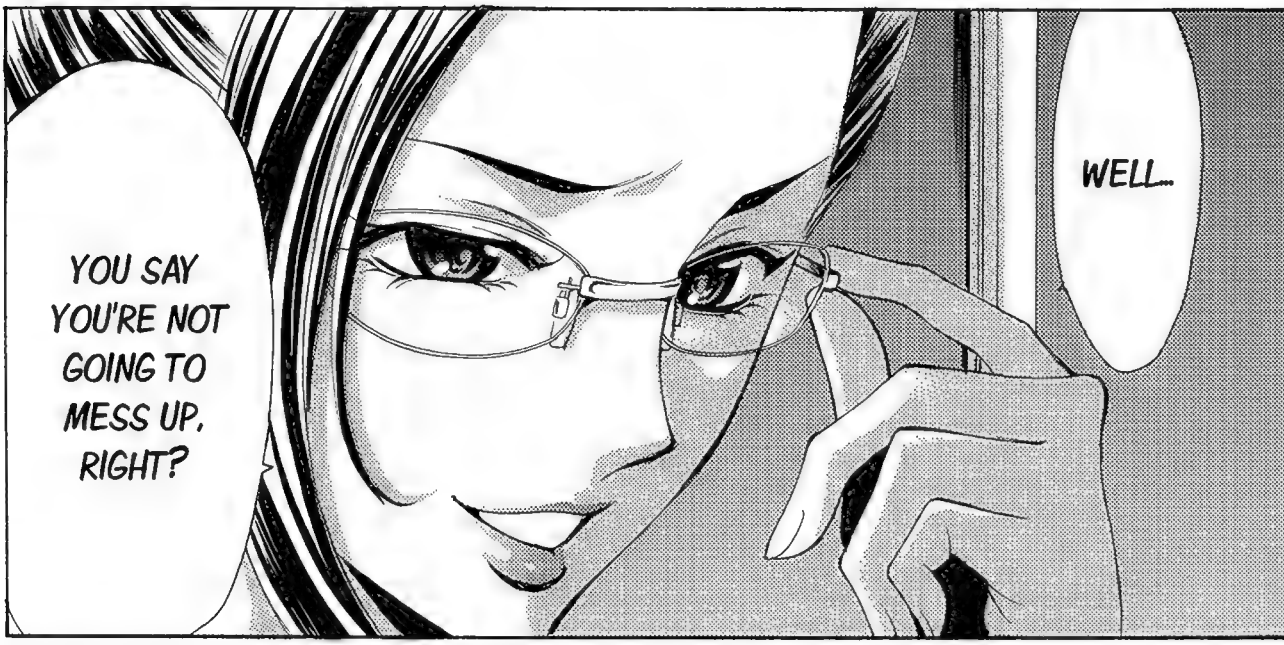
ALL RIGHT!!

BUT IN RETURN...

SHOULD I DETERMINE THAT YOU'VE DISPARAGED THIS COMPANY...
...YOU'LL EACH OWE ME TEN MILLION YEN FOR BREACH OF CONTRACT.

...THAT'S A TOTAL OF FIFTY MILLION.
FOR THE FIVE OF YOU...

THAT'S WAY TOO MUCH!
Y-YOU CAN'T!!
FIFTY... MIL- LION?!
FIF--


YOU SAY YOU'RE NOT GOING TO MESS UP, RIGHT?
WELL...

GIVE US THIS CHANCE!
...WE'LL DO IT.

A-
AOI...
I...
I WANT
THIS...
...
BUT...
I CAN'T
DRAG THE
OTHERS
INTO IT.
WE MADE UP
OUR MINDS
TO BE YUU-
KUN'S WINGS.
HUH
--?

WE'RE PREPARED TO FOLLOW HIM TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH.
RIGHT, SENPAI?

C'MON, I TOLD YOU.
THAT'S MY LINE!

R-RI--
RIGHT!!
DON'T UNDER-ESTIMATE MY LIFE SAVINGS!
YOU GUYS...
...

PLEASE...
LET US DO IT!

WE'LL HAVE TO.. WORK A LOT HARDER.

SLAM
WE'RE GONNA DO AN AWESOME SHOW AND PUT HER IN HER PLACE!!
THAT OLD HAG JUST BETTER WATCH!!
WHO SAYS WE DON'T HAVE THE SKILL?!

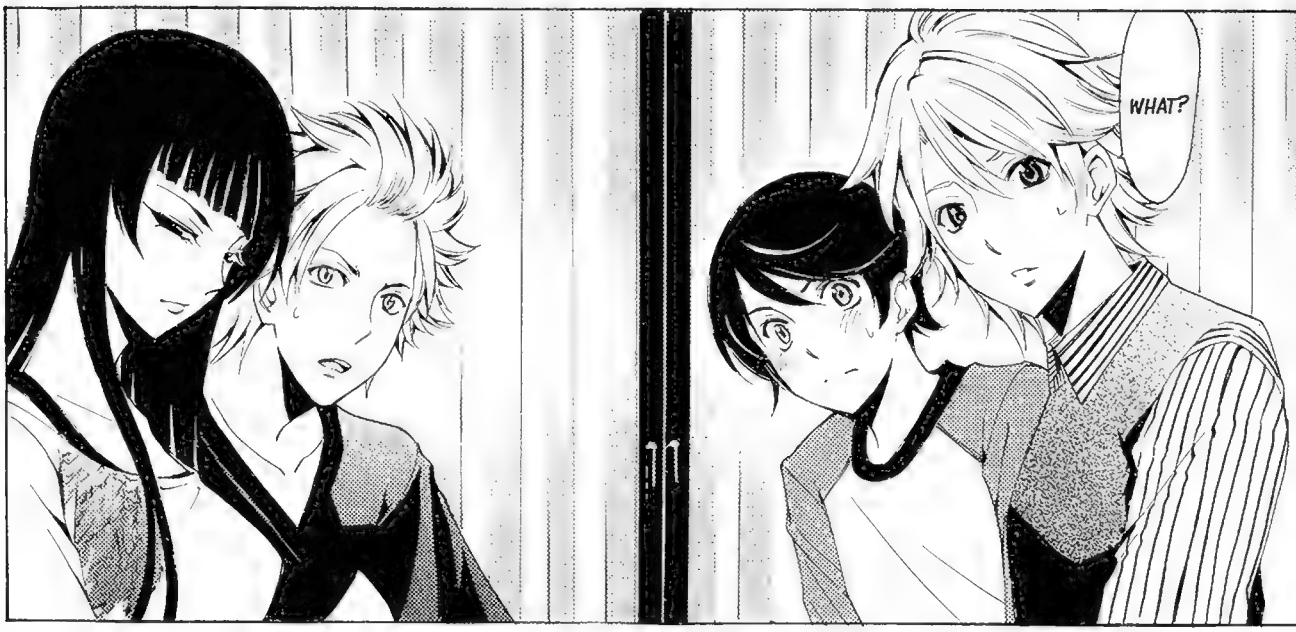
ZZSSSHHHH

IT'LL BE OKAY.
WE'VE ALREADY OVERCOME PLENTY OF TOUGH TRIALS LIKE THIS TOGETHER.
...
THAT'S RIGHT.
YEAH!!
WE'VE GOT THIS!
...YEAH.
WE'RE NOT GOING TO LOSE.
HM?
ピンポン
DING DONG
WHO COULD THAT BE, AT THIS HOUR?
OH.
I'LL GET IT.

SORRY TO DROP BY SO LATE.
DO YOU HAVE TIME TO TALK?
WHA --?
AKIRA... MOGAMI?!

84 SELFISH!

SO IF YOU FAIL AT THE FESTIVAL,
YOU EACH HAVE TO PAY HER TEN MILLION YEN?


WHAT?

WHY? BE-CAUSE...
THE ONE WHO TOLD YOU ALSO TOLD ME.

HOW... HOW DO YOU KNOW THAT?!
CLATTER

HUH?
PRESI-
DENT
AMAYA...
...IS YOUR
FRIEND?!
OUR
COM-
PANY'S
PRESI-
DENT...
...IS A
FRIEND
OF MINE.
SO WHEN
I HEARD,
I CAME TO
GIVE YOU
A LITTLE
WARNING.
THAT'S
RIGHT.
OH... BUT FIRST,
I NEED TO TELL
YOU ALL...
AND WHAT
HELL YOU'RE
ABOUT TO GO
THROUGH.
...WHO SHE
REALLY IS.

SHOOM
WAIT JUST A MINUTE, PRESI-DENT!
OH, MAKE SURE YOU GET A RECEIPT, AOBA-CHAN.
OF COURSE I WILL... BUT, UM...
IS IT REALLY OKAY TO GO AT THIS HOUR?
FOR THIS KIND OF THING? THE SOONER, THE BETTER.

IT WAS OVER TEN YEARS AGO. SHE WAS A MUSIC PRODUCER WITH A MAJOR RECORD LABEL.
THOUGH HER REAL NAME AND HISTORY WERE NEVER MADE PUBLIC...

THERE WAS A TIME WHEN SHE WAS CALLED A GENIUS FOR PRODUCING SEVERAL ARTISTS...
WHOSE CDS NEVER FAILED TO BREAK A MILLION COPIES.

IT'S NO LIE.
EVEN SOMEONE IN THE POSITION I'M IN NOW COULDN'T HOPE TO MATCH HER.

WH-WHAT?!
YOU LIE!

AND WHY IS SOMEONE THAT AMAZING
WORKING AS THE PRESIDENT OF A TINY COMPANY LIKE OURS?

5F
青木公認ビ
TWINKLING ST
岡建設株式
SHE TURNED IN HER RESIGNATION OUT OF THE BLUE ONE DAY.
AND THE NEXT DAY, SHE STARTED UP HER OWN MUSIC COMPANY.

WHAT?
NO IDEA. IT'S A TOTAL MYSTERY.

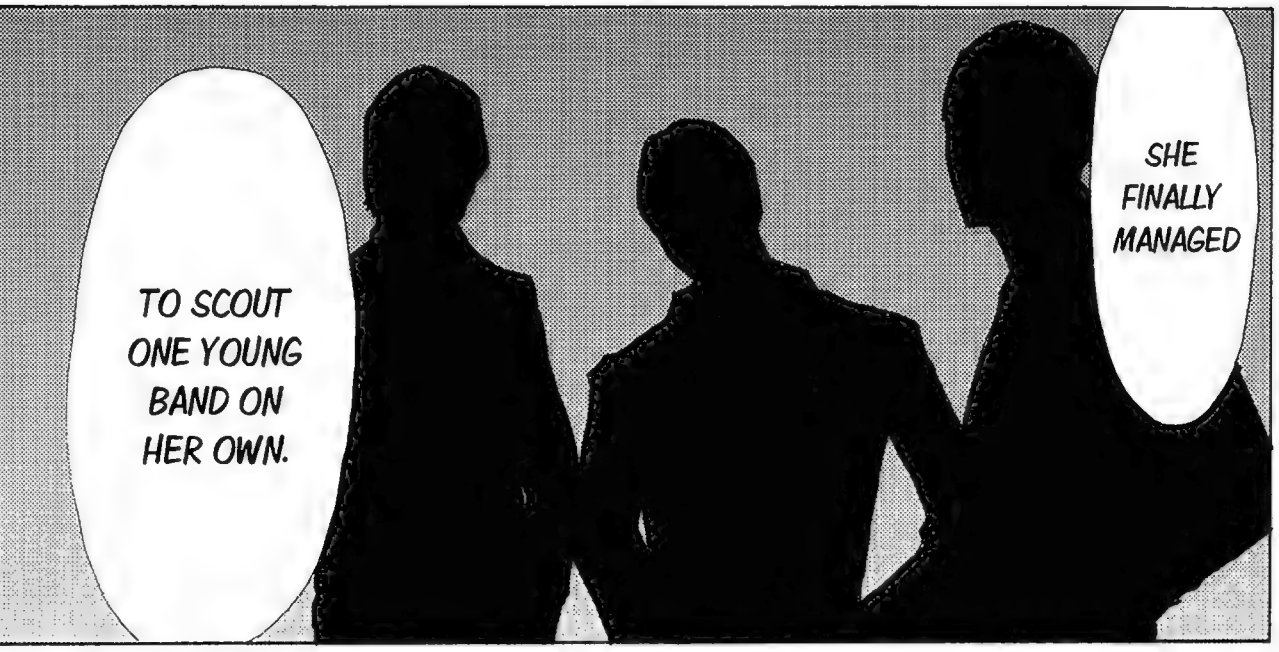
BY PRODUCING ARTISTS THROUGH HER OWN COMPANY, INSTEAD OF AS A SUBCONTRACTOR.
BECAUSE SHE THOUGHT SHE'D MAKE MORE MONEY THAT WAY, RIGHT?

WHAT- WHY?
THAT'S WHY IT'S A MYSTERY.

...

THAT'S WHAT EVERYONE THOUGHT, AT FIRST.
BUT THEN SHE TURNED AWAY ALL THE WELL-KNOWN ARTISTS WHO CAME TO HER.

ANYWAY, THAT DROVE EVERYONE WORKING WITH HER TO LEAVE.
THEN A FEW YEARS LATER, WHEN THINGS REALLY LOOKED BAD FOR HER COMPANY...

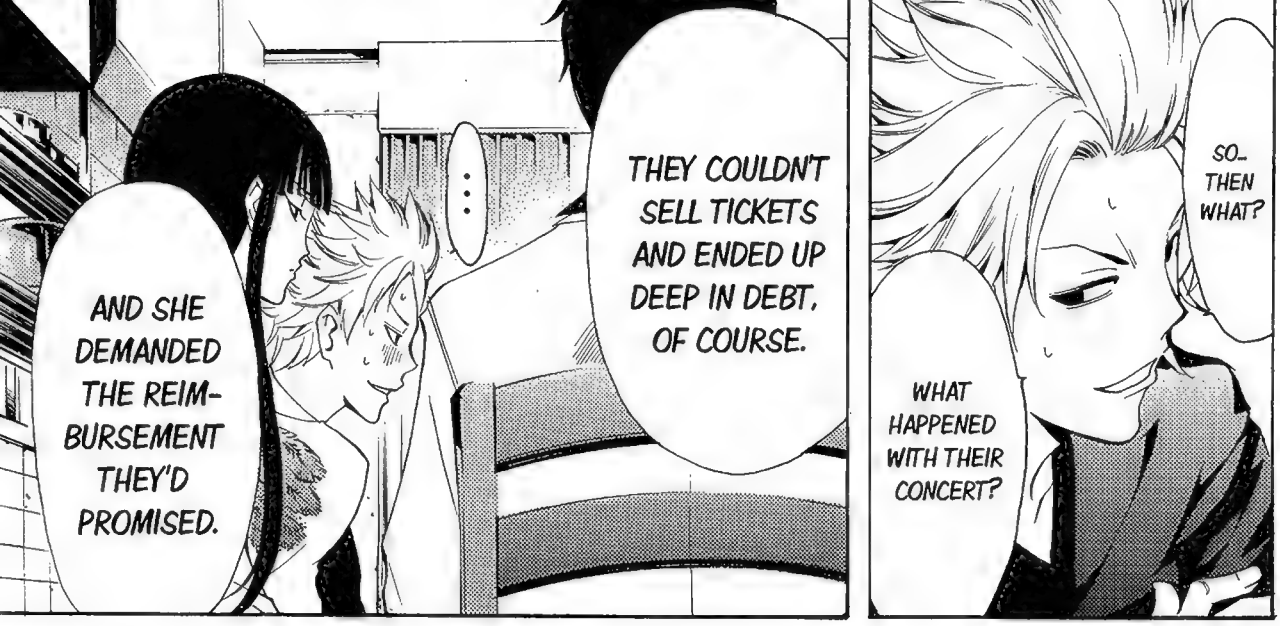

SHE FINALLY MANAGED
TO SCOUT ONE YOUNG BAND ON HER OWN.

THEY WERE ALREADY PRETTY WELL-KNOWN IN THE CLUB SCENE.
AFTER SIGNING WITH HER, THEY GREW ENOUGH TO FILL Q-WEST IN SIX MONTHS, AND Q-EAST IN JUST UNDER A YEAR.

SO THAT BAND WOULD BE OUR SENPAI...
WHAT ARE THEY CALLED, AND WHAT ARE THEY DOING NOW?
THEY BROKE UP A LONG TIME AGO.
WH-WHY?! IF THEY WERE THAT POPULAR...
...
THEY GOT COCKY.

THEY OVER-ESTIMATED THEIR OWN ABILITY.
SHE TRIED TO STOP THEM, BUT THEY WOULDN'T LISTEN. THEY TRIED TO BOOK A STAGE THAT WAS BEYOND THEIR SCOPE.

"WE CAN DO IT ON OUR OWN." "IF IT PUTS US IN THE RED, WE'LL PAY OUT OF OUR OWN POCKETS."
HAHA... JUST LIKE YOU GUYS NOW.
...


SO... THEN WHAT?
WHAT HAPPENED WITH THEIR CONCERT?
THEY COULDN'T SELL TICKETS AND ENDED UP DEEP IN DEBT, OF COURSE.
...
AND SHE DEMANDED THE REIMBURSEMENT THEY'D PROMISED.

BUT THOSE GUYS NEVER DREAMED THEY'D FAIL. SO IT WAS AN ORAL CONTRACT THEY WEREN'T PREPARED TO FULFILL.
WHILE THEY WERE WORKING TO REPAY THEIR DEBT, ONE FLED, AND THE OTHER TWO VANISHED.

AND THEN RUMORS STARTED FLOATING AROUND IN THE INDUSTRY.
PEOPLE SAID HER COMPANY WOULD FORCE BANDS INTO SHOWS THEY COULDN'T HANDLE AND LEAVE THEM IN MASSIVE DEBT.

THAT BAND...
...TRIED TO PLAY ON A STAGE THAT WAS BEYOND THEIR SCOPE.

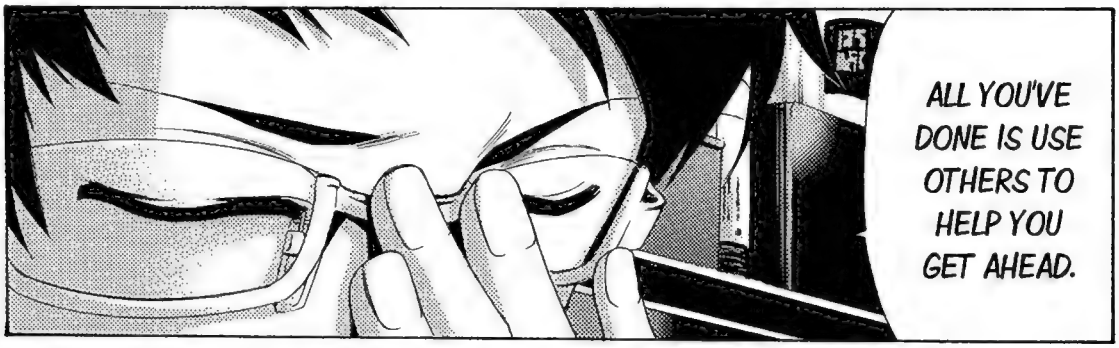
B-BUT IN THIS CASE, WE WERE INVITED TO BE IN THE FESTIVAL.
SO THERE CAN'T BE ANY FINANCIAL BURDEN ON HER, RIGHT?!
WEREN'T YOU LISTENING TO ME?

THE GENIUS PRODUCER SAORI AMAYA REFUSED THAT FESTIVAL'S INVITATION...
...BECAUSE THE SAME THING IS TRUE OF YOU NOW.

CLATTER
WHY SHOULD WE HAVE TO SIT HERE AND TAKE THIS FROM YOU?!
WHAT BUSINESS IS IT OF YOURS?!

...

IT'S TRUE THAT WE'VE GOT A LONG WAY TO GO!
BUT WE FILLED EAST IN LESS TIME THAN THAT BAND DID,
AND I THINK WE PUT ON A GOOD SHOW AT THE BUDOUKAN!


ALL YOU'VE DONE IS USE OTHERS TO HELP YOU GET AHEAD.

WE WANT TO FIND OUT IF WE REALLY DO LACK SKILL!
TH-THAT'S EXACTLY WHY WE WANT TO TRY TAKING PART IN THIS FESTIVAL!

I'M NOT TALKING ABOUT YOUR BAND!
BANG
I'M TALKING ABOUT YOU!
...?!
DON'T BE RIDICU-LOUS!

DO YOU REALLY THINK HIS SINGING WILL MAKE YOU A HIT AT THAT FESTIVAL?!
DROP THE DISGUSTING, HALF-ASSED BEST-OF-FRIENDS ACT ALREADY!
WHAT?
WANT TO KNOW WHERE PRESIDENT AMAYA IS RIGHT NOW?
SHE'S AT THE HEDGEHOGS' AGENCY.
THEY'RE LIKE CANDY THAT JUST MELTS AWAY.
BUT THEY JUST DON'T STAY WITH YA. Y'KNOW, RIGHT HERE?

SHE'S APOLOGIZING WITH ALL SHE HAS...
...FOR YOUR SELFISH NONSENSE!

JUST THINK ABOUT IT.
THIS FESTIVAL WILL DRAW TENS OF THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE.
DO YOU REALIZE HOW MUCH TROUBLE IT CAUSES WHEN SOMEONE SAYS THEY WON'T BE IN IT, THEN DECIDES THEY WILL?

WHY...
WHY WOULD SHE...

"WE MESSED UP," AND "WE'LL PAY FOR IT," WON'T EXCUSE YOU! PLAY LIKE YOUR LIVES DEPEND ON IT!
YOU FORCED HER TO GO THROUGH THAT SO YOU COULD BE IN THE FESTIVAL!

I'LL CRUSH YOU MYSELF, WHATEVER IT TAKES.
AND IF YOU PUT ON A SHOW THAT SOILS PRESI-DENT AMAYA'S REPUTATION AGAIN...

...
THAT'S NONE OF YOUR CONCERN.
WHY WOULD YOU DO ALL THAT FOR HER?
...
WHY?

SLAM!
WAIT!
WHAT EXACTLY IS WRONG WITH ME?!
PLEASE TELL ME!
CHECK IT OUT, PRESIDENT!! I'VE BEEN WORKING ON MY AUTOGRAPH!
HEY! DON'T DRAW GRAFFITI ON MY WALL!

TEN MILLION FROM EACH, HUH?
...
IT'S A GOOD WAY TO MARK THIS DAY!
WELL, OUR LEGEND IS ABOUT TO TAKE OFF!!
HEH.
SHE'S TAKING GOOD CARE OF THEM, ALL RIGHT.
DON'T YOU DARE TELL THOSE KIDS
THAT I BEGGED FOR FORGIVENESS LIKE THAT.
I'M GLAD THAT WORKED OUT!
THEY WERE REALLY MAD, BUT NOW THE FALLEN MOON AND AOI-SAN CAN BOTH BE IN THE FESTIVAL.
TAK TAK
カツ カツ

ARE YOU SURE THAT WASN'T JUST A LIE TO MAKE THEM GIVE UP?
BUT TEN MILLION YEN EACH FOR BREACH OF CONTRACT?
SOME OF THEM MIGHT BE STUPID ENOUGH TO ACTUALLY PAY IT BACK.
IF THEY KNEW THE DEBT WAS ONLY WORTH FIVE MILLION FROM EACH OF THEM...
THAT'S AWFUL!
YOU REALLY ARE AWFUL, PRESI-DENT!
TEN MILLION EACH, FOR FIFTY MILLION TOTAL.
WELL, IF THEY SAY THEY'LL PAY IT, OF COURSE I'LL TAKE IT.
WHAT?

Fuuka CHARACTER

Character Concept Collection No.14

NAME

MAYA HARUNA

DATA

Birthday: November 8th
Height: 159cm (5' 2")
Weight: 47kg (104lb)
Blood Type: O
Measurements: 81-58-84
(32-23-33)

FAVORITES

- Family
- Her Work
- Teatime

DISLIKES

- Working on Days Off
- Overtime
- All Nighters

FAVORITE TEATIME SNACK

- Cube Castella Cakes from Fukusaya

Maya Haruna

Fuuka CHARACTER

Character Concept Collection No.15

NAME

HIBIKI HARUNA

DATA

Birthday: June 16th
Height: 161cm (5' 3")
Weight: Not Telling
Blood Type: B
Measurements: 83-59-85
(33-23-33)

FAVORITES

- Shopping
- Fried Chicken
- Shirokuma (ice cream)

DISLIKES

- Sitting Around at Home
- Taking College Exams
- Job Hunting

FAVORITE BEER

- Yuzu no Hana Brand by SUNGREE

Hibiki Haruna

Fuuka CHARACTER

Character Concept Collection No.16

NAME

CHITOSE HARUNA

DATA

Birthday: November 29th
Height: 149cm (4' 11")
Weight: A Secret!
Blood Type: B
Measurements: You Will Never Know!

FAVORITES

- Shopping
- Fried Chicken
- Picking on Yuu

DISLIKES

- Sitting Around at Home
- Studying for College Entrance Exams
- Being Treated as a Child

FAVORITE BRAND NAME

- PINK-latte

Chitose Haruna

Fuuka 9

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85 A REASON!

I GUESS IT DOES.
IF WHAT MOGAMI SAID IS TRUE,
DOES THAT MEAN THE PRESIDENT REFUSED THE FESTIVAL FOR OUR SAKE?

IF SHE WAS TRYING TO BE NICE, WHY CHARGE US TEN MILLION FOR BREACH OF CONTRACT?
THEN WHY DIDN'T SHE SAY THAT IN THE FIRST PLACE?

...
YEAH, I GUESS THAT'S THE KIND OF WOMAN SHE IS.

HEY!
BUT IF IT'S TRUE...
I THINK SHE'LL STILL MAKE US PAY IT, UNFORTUNATELY.

HM?
UM...

WHAT COULD IT BE?
THE PROB-LEM WITH ME THAT AKIRA MOGAMI WAS TALKING ABOUT...
OH... THAT YOU LOOK LIKE A WIMPY VIRGIN?
WHAT?
A BAND'S VOCALIST HAS TO LOOK LIKE A TOTAL CHICK MAGNET!
YOU KNOW, LIKE AKAGI FROM LE BARD!
Y-YOU THINK THAT'S REALLY IT?
SURE IT IS!
OKAY! WE'LL JUST HAVE IWAMI HELP HIM GET OVER BEING A VIR-
SPLOOSH
THAT'S HOT! WHAT THE HELL?!
DIE ALREADY!

HUH?
STILL, SARA-SENPAI...
YOU ACTU-ALLY KNOW, DON'T YOU?
I... I DON'T... UM...
WHAT... YOU DO?
I REALIZE I'M NO AKIRA MOGAMI.
BUT I KNOW WE ARE NOT SIMPLY PRETENDING TO BE FRIENDS.
IF THERE'S A PROBLEM, WE CAN TELL EACH OTHER ABOUT IT.
CLATTER
IF THERE'S SOMETHING WRONG WITH ME, I'LL FIX IT!
PLEASE TELL ME!

MY BRO-
THER WAS
SAYING...
...
A GOOD
VOCALIST HAS
TO BE MORE
THAN JUST A
GOOD SINGER.
ON THE
STAGE,
HE NEEDS
A CERTAIN
BEARING, A
PRESENCE...
THAT VISUAL
APPEAL IS
ABSOLUTELY
ESSENTIAL.
...
BUT...
IT WAS A
TALENT
THAT LET
HER GRAB
PEOPLE'S
HEARTS
AND NEVER
LET GO.
FUUKA
AKITSUKI
HAD THAT.

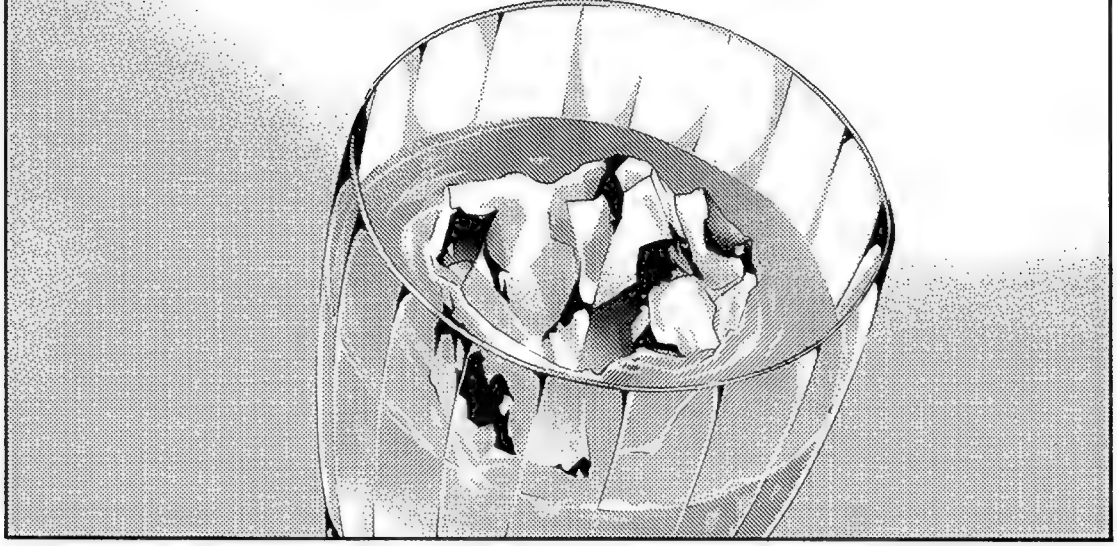
HE SAID THAT YUU-SAN...
DOESN'T HAVE THAT AT ALL RIGHT NOW.

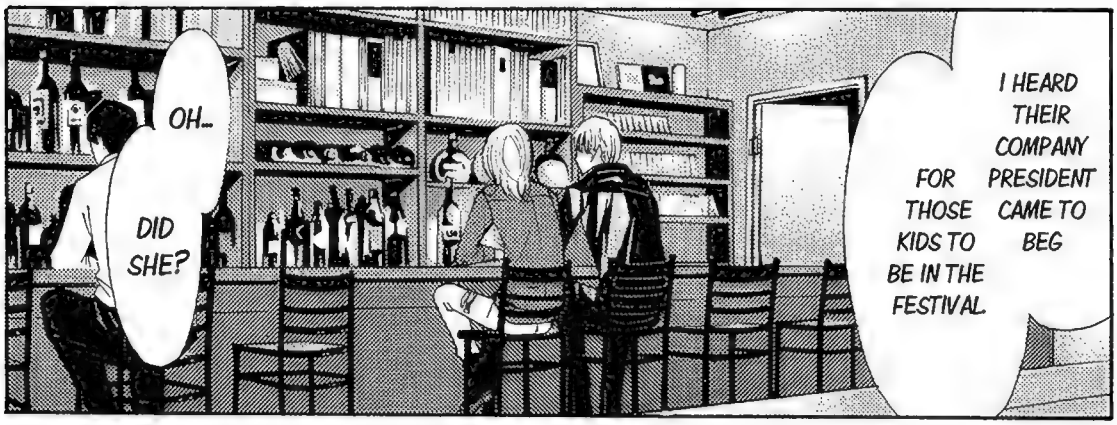
...

B-BUT!
HE SAID TAMA FROM THE HEDGE-HOGS WAS THE SAME WAY!
BUT SOMETHING HAPPENED THAT GAVE HER A REASON TO CHANGE!

COME TO THINK OF IT, MOGAMI DID SAY THAT BEFORE...
IF HISASHI-SAN SAID IT TOO, IT MUST BE A REAL PROBLEM.

HUH?
WHAT WAS THE REASON SHE CHANGED, ANYWAY?
IF YUU-SAN HAD SOME KIND OF REASON, HE COULD...
SO- THAT MEANS...
IT SOLD... A MILLION COPIES...
THE SIXTH SINGLE THEY RELEASED, "THE TOWN WHERE THE STARS FALL"...
THAT'S NOT GONNA HAPPEN, IS IT?
NOT BEFORE THE FES-TIVAL...
UH...
A MIL-LION...

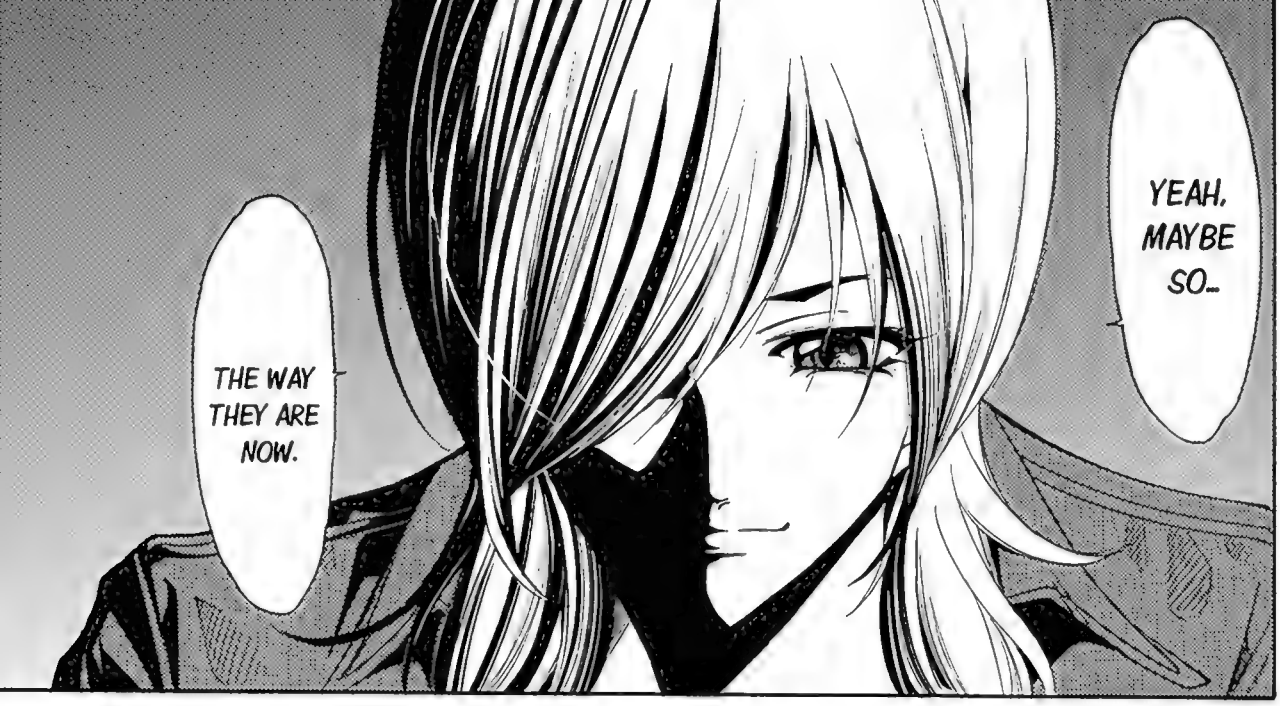


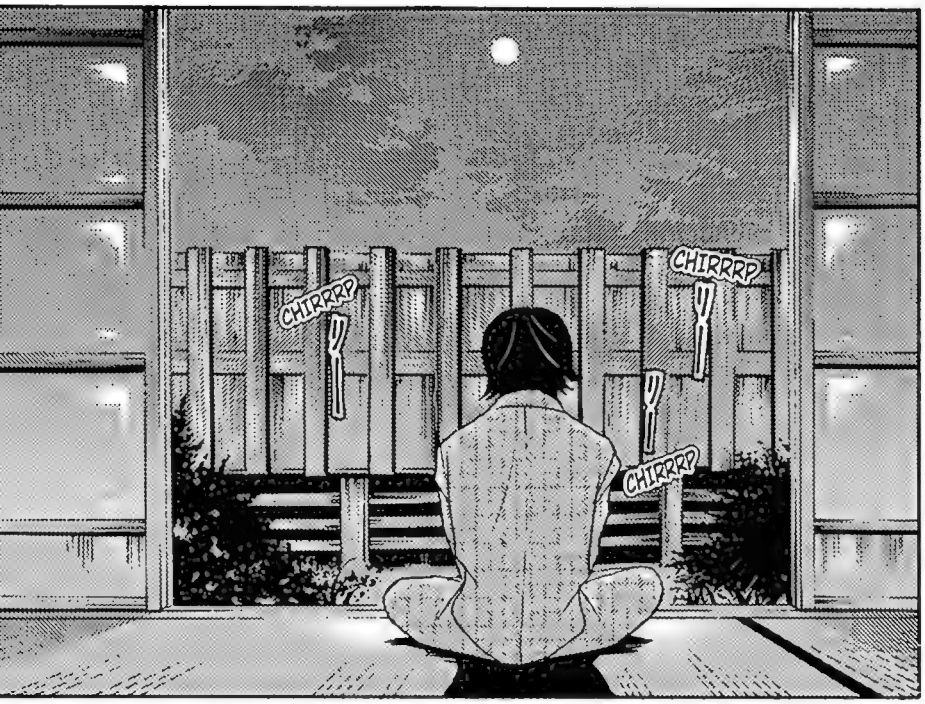

I HEARD THEIR COMPANY PRESIDENT CAME TO BEG FOR THOSE KIDS TO BE IN THE FESTIVAL.
OH... DID SHE?

...

I THINK IT'S TOO RECK-LESS.
THE WAY THEY ARE NOW, THEY'LL JUST HUMILIATE THEMSELVES AT THE FESTIVAL.
CLINK
カラン

WELL, WE DID INVITE THEM.
IT'S BAD FOR US IF THEY DON'T ACCEPT.


THE WAY THEY ARE NOW.
YEAH, MAYBE SO...


CHIRRRP
CHIRRRP
CHIRRRP

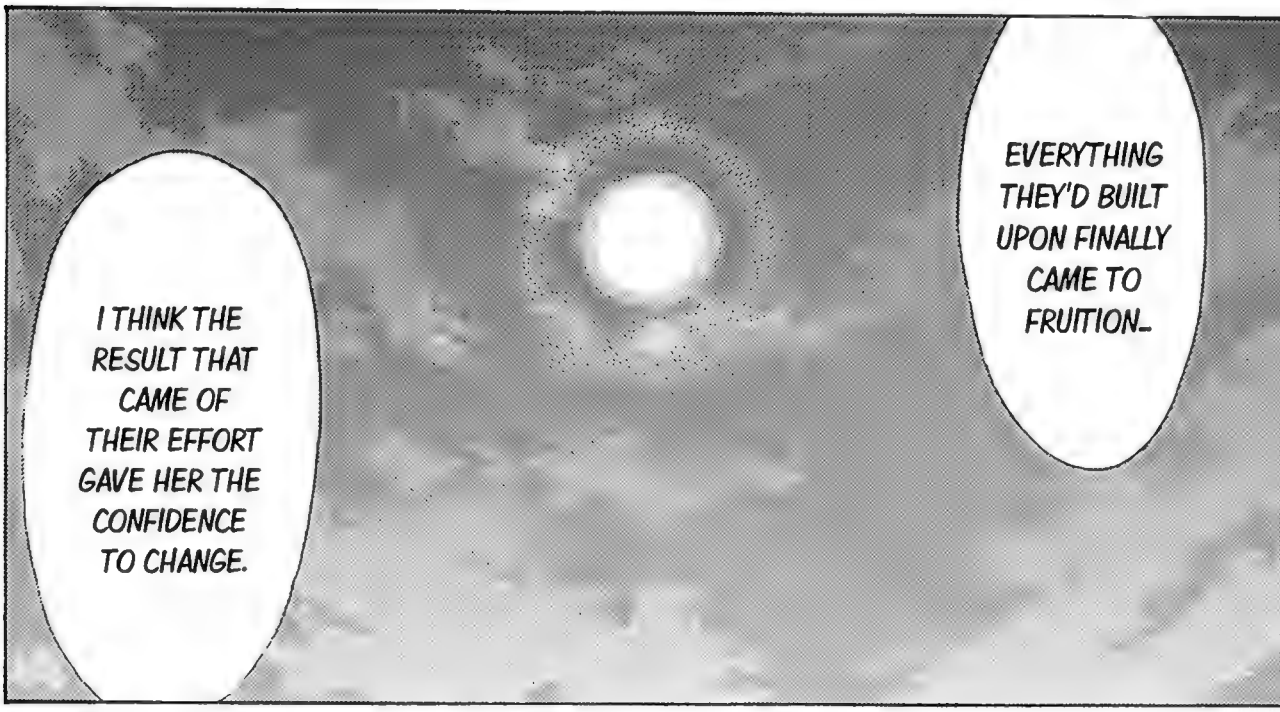
UH...
CREAK
!!

SIGH...

YOU'RE STILL UP, YUU-SAN?
SARA-SEN-PAI.
I WAS JUST THINK-ING...
I'M SORRY...
IT'S BECAUSE OF WHAT I SAID, ISN'T IT?
OH, IT'S NOT THAT! I ALREADY KNEW THAT I HAD NO VISUAL APPEAL.
BUT...
THEN WHAT?
LIKE MOGAMI SAID... MAYBE I GOT COCKY AFTER OUR SUCCESS AT THE BUDOKAN AND EAST.
I SAID SOME REALLY AUDA-CIOUS THINGS TO THE PRESI-DENT, TOO...

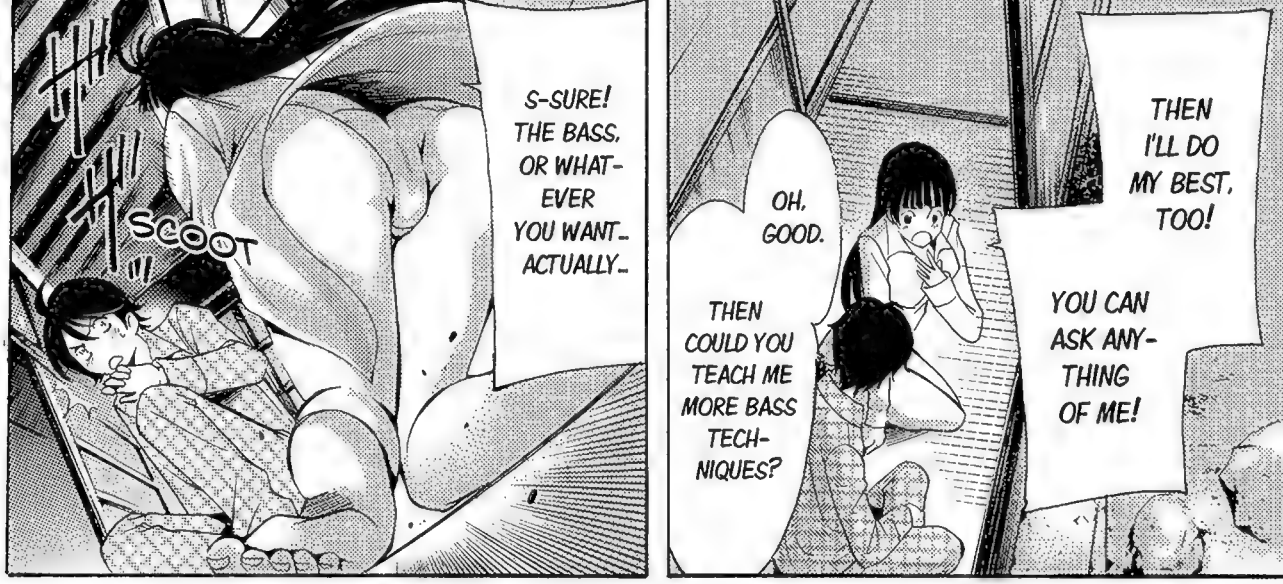
HUH?
WHAT YOU SAID ACTUALLY GAVE ME HOPE.
I THINK... I LIKE IT WHEN YOU'RE THAT CONFI-DENT...
BECAUSE IT MEANS...
OUR BAND CAN GET EVEN BETTER DEPENDING ON WHAT I DO, RIGHT?
HONESTLY, SEEING AOI AND AKAGI MADE ME LOSE MY CONFI-DENCE...
I REALIZED SOME PEOPLE ARE JUST BORN WITH THAT APPEAL.
BUT IF EVEN TAMA DIDN'T START OUT THAT WAY, THEN MAYBE I CAN...
!

HUH_?
I DON'T THINK IT WAS JUST "THE TOWN WHERE THE STARS FALL" BY ITSELF.
HER REASON FOR CHANGING THAT HISASHI-SAN TALKED ABOUT_


I THINK THE RESULT THAT CAME OF THEIR EFFORT GAVE HER THE CONFIDENCE TO CHANGE.
EVERYTHING THEY'D BUILT UPON FINALLY CAME TO FRUITION_

SO I GOT EMBARRASSED, WONDERING WHY I WAS SO FULL OF MYSELF.
PLUS, I'M NOT AS GOOD AT NIKO ON THE BASS, OR AS GOOD AS TAMA AT SINGING_

YUU-SAN...
...
THAT'S NOT TRUE!
I...
UM...
I'M THE BIGGEST AMATEUR OF US ALL.
THERE'S A BIGGER PROBLEM THAN WHETHER I HAVE VISUAL APPEAL OR NOT.
BUT BELIEVE ME, I'LL WORK MYSELF TO DEATH TO GET BETTER, IF I HAVE TO.
SO I CAN MAKE THIS FESTIVAL MY "REASON"...

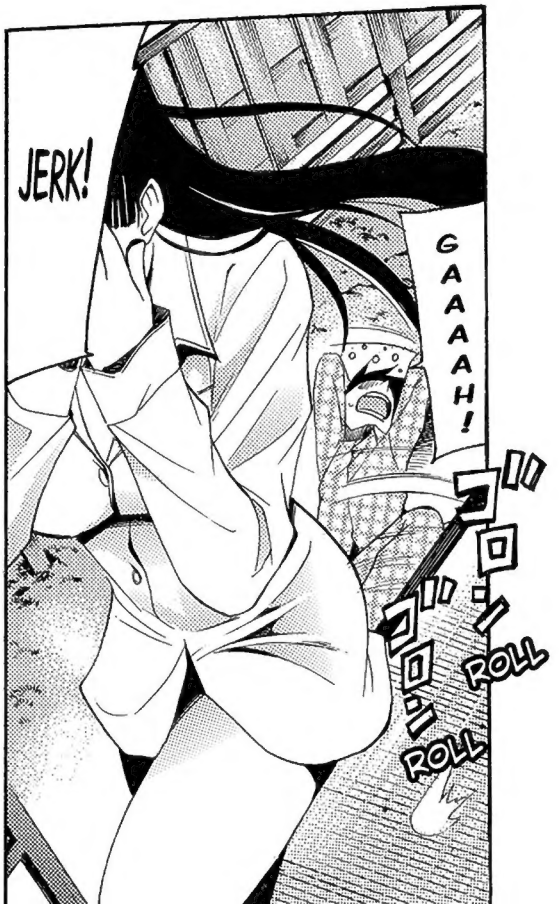

S-SURE! THE BASS, OR WHAT-EVER YOU WANT... ACTUALLY...
SCOOT
OH, GOOD.
THEN COULD YOU TEACH ME MORE BASS TECH-NIQUES?
THEN I'LL DO MY BEST, TOO!
YOU CAN ASK ANY-THING OF ME!

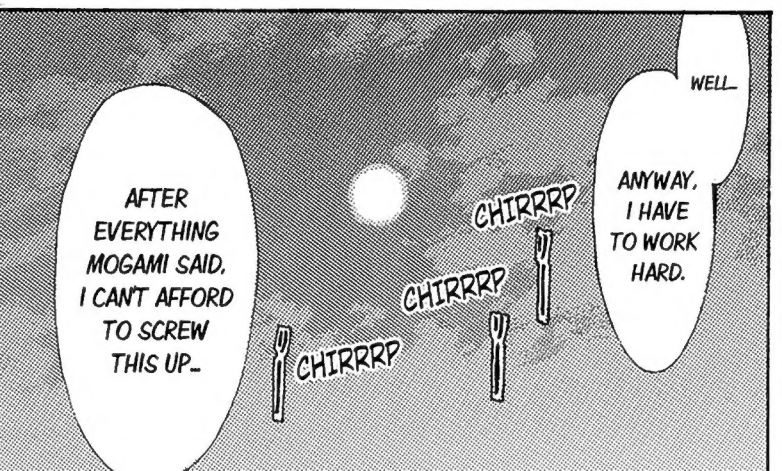
I COULD EVEN DO WHAT NACHI-SENPAI SUGGESTED...
IF IT WOULD GIVE YOU MORE CONFI-DENCE.

AH!
WHAT?

SHOVE
IT WAS JUST AN EXPRESSION TO SHOW HOW SERIOUS I AM! HOW COULD YOU GET THE WRONG IDEA?! DON'T START HAVING WEIRD FANTASIES!
I CAN'T DEAL WITH THIS! I HAVE WORK TOMORROW, AND I'M TIRED, SO I'M GOING TO BED! GOODNIGHT!
THUNK

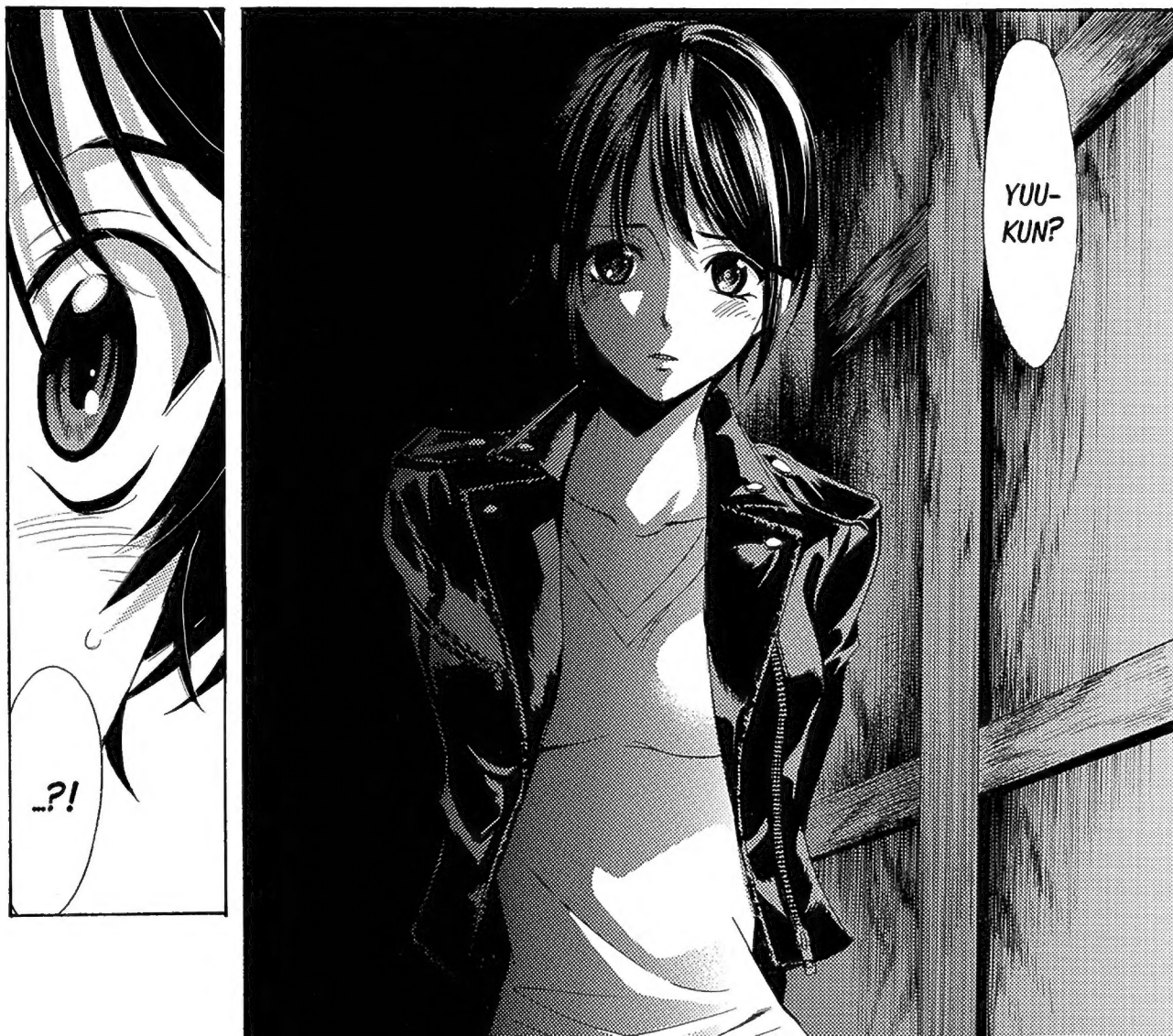
I...
I DIDN'T EVEN SAY ANYTHING...


GAAAAH!
JERK!
ROLL
ROLL


WELL...
ANYWAY, I HAVE TO WORK HARD.
CHIRRRP
CHIRRRP
CHIRRRP
AFTER EVERYTHING MOGAMI SAID, I CAN'T AFFORD TO SCREW THIS UP...

SWAY
ユラァ…
カサッ
RUSTLE

IS... IS IT... A THIEF?!
WHA... WHO'S THERE?


...?!
YUU-KUN?

AOI!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?!
I WAS IN FRONT OF YOUR HOUSE, AND I HEARD YOUR VOICE...
YOU WERE IN FRONT OF...
BUT IT'S ONE IN THE MORNING!
Y-YEAH... YOU'RE RIGHT.
SORRY! I'LL JUST GO HOME!
WHOA, HANG ON! WHAT HAPPENED?!
YOU SHOULDN'T BE OUT AT THIS HOUR!

To be continued in Vol. 10